

Project Title: **THE RETREAT FARM STORY PATHS AND LANDSCAPE LEARNING CENTER**

Institution: **RETREAT FARM, LTD., BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT**

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Grant Program: **NEH Public Humanities Projects, Historic Places Planning**



THE NATURE OF THE REQUEST

The Retreat Farm, located in Brattleboro, Vermont, seeks a twelve-month \$40,000 NEH Historic Places planning grant to cover part of the costs of planning a permanent new outdoor museum employing a humanities approach to connect, teach and enrich public understanding of Vermont’s iconic landscape as a microcosm of our human place on the earth. The Retreat Farm, established in 1837 as a therapeutic adjunct to an innovative local psychiatric hospital, occupies an exceptionally beautiful and historically significant 600-acre site of classic agricultural buildings, forested hills, farm fields, trails and water meadows at the junction of the old Native American water highways of the West and Connecticut Rivers.

This historic and strategic site makes it exceptionally rich in stories of indigenous peoples, international warfare, New England settlement, natural healing, and agricultural history. The plan will consist of two phases:

- **Phase 1. The Retreat Farm Story Paths**, a series of thematic walking paths illustrating landscape change through the use of historical narratives, images, and sounds that connect people of all ages to the land.
- **Phase 2: The Landscape Learning Visitors’ Center**, providing a more in-depth interactive experience. The Landscape Learning Story Paths and the

Landscape Learning Visitors' Center will be complimentary learning experiences. Both will be lively, interesting, interactive and fun.

The multi-layer environment of the Retreat Farm will serve as a backdrop for telling human stories of how generations have lived, sustained themselves, made decisions, and solved their problems on these acres. The fundamental question we raise is the same one first brought to world-wide attention by a native Vermonter, George Perkins Marsh, whose epic *Man and Nature* (1864) asked whether man is a part of nature, or an independent being who can destroy it?

Like Marsh, we live in an age when human impact on the natural world is a topic of great concern and inquiry. Climate change inspires us to engage people in learning and thinking about our role in creating the landscape. Is the landscape story necessarily one of decline, as humans destroy a once-pristine nature, or are there encouraging signs that the earth can be redeemed? Our plan is to use the power of the humanities to instill a deeper understanding of the worlds we build around us, empowering us to take landscape decisions that will make us nature's partner, rather than its exploiter.

FUNDING REQUEST

The Retreat Farm is already running as a vibrant farm and nature center, and community gathering place. This project will take our offerings to another level. To do this, we need to hone our themes and exhibit ideas with expert assistance from academics, local leaders, and museum professionals. That is what the NEH could provide.

The NEH planning grant will fund the following activities:

- A one-day planning charrette with our Advisory Board to test the identified narrative themes and formats in greater detail, along with follow up visits and communications with board members as needed.
- Salary for the external consultant who is acting as the project director for the project.
- A two-day planning charrette with museum and exhibits professionals to stimulate ideas for layouts, accompanying programmatic materials, and Phase 2 interactive exhibits.
- Interviews and vetting of exhibit design professionals.
- Creation of a polished interpretive plan that will move us to the museum's implementation phase.

HUMANITIES CONTENT

The intellectual underpinnings of the project are related to the sense of place. How do humans create, use, experience, destroy, and restore the places they inhabit? Since 1995, when historian William Cronon transformed environmental history with his essay, "The Trouble with Wilderness: Or, Getting Back to the Wrong Nature," the dominant trend in the environmental history field has been towards looking more carefully at

'nature' as it exists in those landscapes that have been formed, and reformed, through centuries of human actions. Cronon decried an environmental history that had been preoccupied with the romance of the wilderness at the expense of the nature that exists where we live our daily lives. Subsequent environmental historians have shown deeper engagement with how public policy, race and gender, historical memory, warfare, the food system, and myriad other topics have fostered the transformation of landscapes. We plan to draw on these new insights, enriching them with historical narratives, first-person stories, vintage photos, literary quotations, and the visual arts. The Retreat Farm Story Paths will provide an exciting way for the public to understand where we are in the historical continuum of past, present, and future, by connecting us to what we have done to the land, what has connected us to it, and how we have felt about it.

The Retreat Farm's architectural importance has been recognized on the National Registry of Historic Places since 1984. It includes an Italianate farmhouse and a large U of historic barns, enclosing a spacious central green. A wooded ridgeline and farm meadows frame the site. Its location at the joining of the waters made it sacred for the Sokoki Abenaki, and a unique healing place for those who came after them. Locals have long enjoyed skating on the frozen water meadow, skiing the forested paths in winter, and hiking through its summer forests. We spend our lives on the surface that the present provides, often taking the spaces around us for granted. Soon the secrets of this striking landscape, its hidden layers of memory, will have deeper stories to tell us about how it came to be, and what we can learn about our own impact on the landscapes where we spend our daily lives.

HUMANITIES THEMES

We have identified five major humanities themes and will be testing them with our advisory panel over the course of the planning grant.

1. **Landscape and Culture.** Two distinct cultures have lived within the geographical parameters of the site, the original Sokoki Abenaki and European settlers from southern New England. The history of New England's indigenous populations is currently in a process of transformation. William Cronon's first book, *Changes in the Land*, demonstrated that New England's native people were powerful forces for landscape change in their own rights. Colin Calloway's extensive scholarship on the Abenaki have restored them as past and present occupants of the area. A new generation of indigenous scholars are telling their own stories of life on this land. Jean O'Brien's *Firsting and Lasting, Writing Indians Out of Existence in New England*, combats the civic myths that sought to erase all trace of New England's Indians. Lisa Brooks has recreated Abenaki forms of writing, reviving the concept of "the common pot" that forms the network of interconnectedness between all the beings that share the environment. We are working closely with the surviving Abenaki population to define and enrich this theme.

2. **Contested Ground.** Where there is land, there is conflict. The early farm site saw struggles on the macro level, as European powers fought with, and against, tribal groups for control of the land. In her recent book, *Our Beloved Kin: A New History of King Philip's War*, Lisa Brooks recreates an indigenous map of post-contact New England that enriches our understanding of how these struggles looked from a Native perspective. Colin Calloway's recent *The Indian World of George Washington* shows the extent to which our eminent founding father was aware that America's future rested on acquiring Indian land. The farm site would see Abenaki and Yankee blood spilled in this cause. Later, there would be more micro-level modern conflicts over water, pollution, freeway building and eminent domain. How do people find productive ways to resolve landscape conflicts?

3. **The creation of the Vermont landscape.** We are experiencing a revival of historical interest in the creation of the New England landscape. The essayists collected in Blake Harrison and Richard Judd's *Landscape History of New England* describe many natural and cultural forces that define the region. Jan Albers's *Hands on the Land: A History of the Vermont Landscape* argues that the Vermont landscape story is one of exaggerated periods of economic boom and bust, from the massive environmental impact of forest clearing for a farming economy, to the booming town and country interplay of the community-building period, to the failure of the hill farms, and the search for new ways of sustaining productive Vermont landscapes. In *Second Nature*, Richard Judd credits New Englanders with creating a 'second nature,' a sustainable landscape that replaced the original wilderness. Why did successive generations make the decisions they made on the land, and what do the results have to teach us?

4. **The Retreat Farm as a Place of Healing.** The site has a strong tradition as a place of healing, both for the Abenaki people and under the aegis of the Brattleboro Retreat hospital. Each culture has argued for the therapeutic value of experiences in nature. Does being in nature have the capacity to heal? Do people 'need' landscape beauty to thrive? Why is this connection recurrent? Is landscape beauty a luxury or a necessity?

5. **Agriculture and the New Regenerative Farming.** Americans are increasingly interested in where their food comes from and how its production influences the landscape. Studies like Kendra Smith-Howard's *Pure and Modern Milk*, a detailed look at dairy farming in the 20th Century, and Anna Zeide's *Canned: The Rise and Fall of Consumer Confidence in the American Food Industry*, feed our age's interest in where and how our food is made. Vermont remains one of the most rural states in the country, yet agriculture is a steadily decreasing portion of the state's economy.

What might the Retreat Farm's agricultural history teach us about making Vermont agriculture sustainable in the farm-to-table climate of today?

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- A one-day planning charrette with our Advisory Board to test the identified narrative themes and formats in greater detail, along with follow up visits and communications with board members as needed.
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- A two-day planning charrette with museum and exhibits professionals to stimulate ideas for layouts, accompanying programmatic materials, and Phase 2 interactive exhibits.
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INTRODUCTION TO THE SITE

Since 1837, the Brattleboro Retreat Farm has provided food and fuel, productive work, nature-inspired restoration, community, and innovation. It is located on the northern edge of the charming town of Brattleboro, Vermont, the local hub for Windham County. It lies adjacent to Interstate-91, the primary eastern gateway into Vermont for tourists from the population hubs of the East Coast and New England coming to vacation in the Green Mountains.

The Retreat Farm property covers land that was sacred ground to the native Sokoki Abenaki. They hunted and gathered in these woods and waters for centuries, and later came to use the riverbank fields for agriculture. When the New England Yankees began to move north from the crowded original colonies, the site became contested ground, with indigenous people battling new settlers for the right to remain. There is blood on this land, as the original people were pushed out of their homelands and became part of a major clash of continents. Later conflicts arose over Yankee land claims, dam building that flooded part of the farm, sewage contamination of the rivers, and the bisecting of the farm with the building of I-91.

The Retreat Farm site has a long history as a place of healing. Native people believed—still believe--this water-bounded world has the capacity to renew health and create spiritual connections. When the Vermont Asylum for the Insane (later renamed the Brattleboro Retreat) opened on this ground in 1836, it was also meant as a place to heal, offering new forms of humane treatment for the mentally ill. The Retreat Farm was built as an intrinsic part of this healing mission, producing fresh, home-grown meat, dairy products, vegetables, and warming firewood, in an era when all farming was organic. It provided a therapeutic purpose for the patients, who could work outdoors, or with animals in the barns, in a supportive treatment environment. As one of the most innovative psychiatric hospitals in the United States, the Brattleboro Retreat and its

therapeutic farm became a vital regional institution, enhancing the town's civic reputation and stimulating the local economy, while providing an engine of growth for southern Vermont.

All landscapes have their pasts, but the Retreat Farm's history is particularly dense with meaning. These few acres offer stories of human hope and pain, love and grief, greed and charity, scientific improvement and benign neglect that may be specific to this site, but they are also universal stories of how humans have been, at once, the healers and the destroyers of their earthly home. Their lessons are all around us, and we can learn from them. This beautiful place will serve as an incubator for revealing the many landscape layers that have piled up on this spot, sharing what we see today, and pointing us towards the healthier landscapes we may create in the future.

Many people have visited natural history sites with story boards telling of the native flora and fauna (in Vermont, the newly constructed VINS Forest Canopy Walk being a fine example). Vermont has other annotated walking paths, including the Robert Frost Interpretive Trail, featuring signboards with his poems, and a historic walking tour of downtown Middlebury. The Retreat Farm Story Paths will build on these formats, by providing a more in-depth introduction to the histories of the indigenous and New England agricultural environments.

PROJECT FORMATS

PHASE 1. THE LANDSCAPE CHANGE STORY PATHS

The goal of our project is to create in-depth landscape learning experiences, and what better place to do that than in the landscape itself? The Retreat Farm will be a “museum” of the landscape, but not in the traditional sense of glass-cased objects in a building. Our purpose is to inspire visitors to learn about the Vermont landscape through walking a series of accessible history paths, where story boards will narrate and illustrate landscape themes. The story boards will include “points of entry” for learners of all sorts—historical narratives, first-person accounts, historic photographs, maps, artwork and sidebars. They will be colorful, entertaining, provocative and pithy. The story signage will be created in varied styles appropriate to the landscapes they pass through, so as to blend in with their environments. Vegetative landscaping and natural seating will be incorporated where appropriate. Paths may include sites for interactive activities, or projects (archaeological digs, log house building, forest bathing, perhaps changing annually). Children's content will be included adjacently in spots where they can participate in the stories. We are partnering with regional leaders of the indigenous community, the Brattleboro Historical Society, Retreat contacts, local educators, state and regional environmentalists and more, in developing these stories and illustrations. We also plan to include audio links to stories that can be listened to along the paths. The paths themselves will be clear, with firm surfaces, and easily accessible for all ages and mobilities. Each path will include one or two seating areas, as needed, according to path lengths. The story paths will be an engaging way of learning history for visitors, families and student groups.

The purpose of the paths is to tell the story of Vermont landscape change as it has developed on this unique agricultural and therapeutic site. We are currently proposing five trails, each connected to one of the general humanities themes, and dense with related subthemes. These themes will be tested with the help of our Advisory Board, which primarily includes academic specialists, indigenous leaders and representatives, and local historians. They are introduced at the end of the narrative.

Trail summaries and storylines include:

1. THE SOKOKI STORY AT WANTASTEGOK, THE PLACE WHERE TWO RIVERS MEET

Theme: Landscape and Culture: Abenaki Lives on the Land

Summary: Indigenous people have lived on this land for 12,000 years—first, the Paleoindians who survived in the post-Ice Age tundra, then merging into the Sokoki Abenaki, an Algonquian people, in a landscape of mixed hardwood forests. They transformed the landscape in taking their food, clothing, and shelter, but their environmental impact was more sustainable than our own. The spot where the West and Connecticut Rivers come together was a sacred place for Native people.

Location: The Water Meadows, where this trail will form an integral part of our ongoing vision for the restoration of the Retreat Meadows next to the juncture of the West and Connecticut Rivers. This path will explore the profound cultural and spiritual significance the rivers, and their adjacent lands, have held for the local Sokoki Abenaki people for millennia.

Outreach to Underserved Communities: We have spent the past eighteen months networking with the Vermont Abenaki leaders and indigenous communities on this project and are pledged to partner with them in developing the final themes and content of this story path, as well as another on the theme of Contested Ground. Local indigenous leaders Rich Holschuh and Chief Roger Longtoe are invaluable resources for the project, as well as academic historians of the subject with whom we correspond. The site will provide a physical focus for ongoing programming in conjunction with local indigenous communities.

Potential Stories:

- The story of Wantastegok: the Place Where Two Rivers Meet, examining the physical and spiritual meaning of the confluence of waters, and broader issues of the Abenaki place in nature.
- Petroglyphs on the site, now obscured under the waters, illustrate the triad of sky, surface, and underworld, making this a spot of great spiritual significance to Native people.
- Hunting and gathering as a functional food system; the introduction of agriculture and the gendering of gardening.

- The “common pot.” Historian Lisa Brooks has shown that the cultural disruption of long-settled indigenous communities at the time of contact, and the inability to integrate newcomers into native spaces through this concept led cultural fragmentation, but also came to reaffirm indigenous identities.
- Native erasure. Generations of schoolchildren were taught that there were “No Indians in Vermont” at the time of settlement. Recent scholarship explores attempts at cultural eradication of indigenous peoples from the history of these landscapes.

Resources and scholarship:

The history of indigenous people in general, and the Western Abenaki in particular, has been a very lively field over the past two decades. Colin Calloway has written on every aspect of Abenaki life, from pre-contact to the present. Storytellers of the Abenaki tradition include Joseph Bruchac, Chief Roger Longtoe, and Rich Holschuh. Recent academics work by indigenous scholars like Lisa Brooks are giving voice to a vision of history that puts the Abenaki front and center in their own story.

2. THE CONTESTED GROUND PATH

Theme: Where There is Land, There is Conflict

Summary: The land is our home and our sustenance, our birthright and our final resting place. We cannot take it with us, and yet we fervently believe that it is ‘ours.’ From the grand scope of a world war to a neighbor’s tree shedding limbs over our fence, there are many ways for land to become contested ground. Over nearly two centuries, the Retreat Farm’s acres have been the site of land conflicts on international, state, regional and local levels, much like people still experience today all over the world. Some of them are told on this walk.

Location: From the DAR memorial tablet moving north along Route 30.

Potential Stories:

- A Camping Spot in the Clash of Continents

From the outbreak of King Philip’s War in 1675, for a long century, the great empires of England and France fought for control of North America. In the battles to prevent English settlement, the Retreat Farm’s strategic location on the Connecticut River made it a natural camping spot for French and Indian raiding parties as they marched their captives to Canada. Such famous captives as the Rev. John Williams and his family were camped here on their forced march to Canada after the raid on Deerfield in 1704.

- Whose Farm Is It? The DAR Memorial

In 1929, a metal DAR memorial plaque was affixed to a boulder in front of the Retreat Farm, commemorating the sites of the first log cabin in Brattleboro, and the Arms Tavern, the town’s first inn. Its wording, typical of the time, tells how in March 1758, the innocent Moor family were attacked by

Indians, the father and adult son were scalped, and the son's wife and small children were force marched to Montreal to be ransomed. The Abenaki perspective is erased. The cabin site was supplanted by the Arms Tavern in 1762, which is described here as a gathering place sympathetic to the Green Mountain Boys during the American Revolution, ignoring Brattleboro's history as a primarily Loyalist town.

The DAR Memorial provides a teachable moment for the theme of contested ground, as it promotes views of the histories of the site that could be challenged. It provides a timely case study in shifting visions of the past, and modern ambivalences surrounding commemorative objects. We propose erecting a glass box over the memorial boulder that would side 'edit' the words in light of more recent scholarship, offering visitors an opportunity to 'see through' layers of history and draw their own conclusions.

- **Yorkers vs Yankees: The Land Grant Conflict**

By the mid-1700s, land hunger created new interest in the lands of northern New England. New York and New Hampshire both claimed the right to sell land in the future Vermont. Most people in Brattleboro were 'Yorkers,' while those over the Green Mountains were on New Hampshire grants, whose rights were protected by the Allen brothers and the Green Mountain Boys. The struggle left settlers confused over whether they had clear title to the lands they had purchased.

- **Where Did Our Meadow Go? The Fight Over the Vernon Dam**

From time immemorial, the land extending from the Retreat Farm to the conjunction of the West and Connecticut Rivers had been among the richest farmland in New England. In 1906, the Vermont Legislature passed a bill to allow construction of two electrical power dams on the Connecticut River near Brattleboro, promising not to flood the meadows. The meadows were, and remain, flooded, unleashing a protracted conflict as the Retreat battled to protect its interests.

- **Water Meadow or Sewer? The Fight Over the Wetlands**

When the Vernon dam flooded the Retreat meadows in 1909, the Retreat lost more than its farm fields. The meadows had also contained a stream that helped to carry sewage from the Brattleboro Retreat to the West River, and then into the Connecticut. At this time, there was no sewage treatment plant in the town, so all Brattleboro sewage ended up in the rivers. With the flooding of the meadows, and increasing sewage quantities from the Retreat hospital, sewage overflowed throughout the water meadows. It then entered the West River, just above the town's most popular swimming spot. This contamination led to conflicts with the town over the safety of the swimming hole.

- **The Building of I-91**

When is your land not your land? The Retreat Farm faced this question, when President Eisenhower's Federal Aid Highway Act (1956) mandated the building of the interstate highway system. The Retreat Farm was one of hundreds of local properties facing seizure through eminent domain. The Retreat Farm sued the state over the route and the proposed level of compensation. In the end, they got less than the land was worth, and the farm was cut in two.

Resources and scholarship: The historical literature on the French and Indian Wars is voluminous, and a number of the experts on our panel, including academics, Native Americans and local historians, are very well-placed to help us to develop these themes in more details. Colin Calloway has made himself available for queries and advice. Recent work by Calloway, Lisa Brooks, and Ian Saxine is deepening our understanding of the indigenous perspective on landscape and treaty obligations. For this section, and all subsequent themes, we have help from the wide-ranging expertise of historian Jill Lepore. Christine DeLucia and Ari Kelman have written eloquently about how the memorials created by previous generations create minefields for historical memory. Geologist Paul Bierman's in-depth study of the building of Vermont's interstates illustrates the geological and cultural impact of altering the landscape.

3. THE VERMONT LANDSCAPE STORY PATH

Theme: The Creation of Vermont's Iconic Landscape

Summary: Vermont is known for its beautiful landscape of farms fields, charming villages, and forested hilltops. European settlers did a mammoth clearing of the forests for more intensive, settled agriculture. What worked in the valleys wreaked havoc in the thin soils of the mountains, where farming could not sustain its families. The environmental cataclysm led to hunger, poverty, and land abandonment. Vermont's landscape destruction also stimulated some world-class thinking about how to treat the land better. Today the hills are reforested, and the waters are cleaner, but does that mean this landscape is sustainable?

Location: A hillside path above the farmstead

Potential Stories:

- Are settler stories inspiring or cautionary as we learn more about the human and environmental costs of the transformation of this landscape?
- The clearcutting of Vermont inspired pioneering ecologist George Perkins Marsh to issue the first worldwide call of ecological warning.
- The agricultural economy and town building in New England.
- Landscape beauty as a cultural draw. Tourists have been flocking to Vermont for two centuries, and its beauty has attracted writers and artists, including Royall Tyler, Rudyard Kipling, Saul Bellow, and Ralph Ellison.
- A century ago, Vermont was 80% deforested, and now 80% of it is forested again. Is the Vermont landscape enjoying a 'second nature' of sustainability, as some historians have suggested?

- The land after agriculture. Most Vermonters are no longer farming. What happens to land that is not in agriculture?
- The landscape as agent. The geographic features of a site are not just passive forces, subject to human whims. As we act on the land, how is it acting on us? In an age of climate change, we face more aggressive blow back from natural forces we had once thought of as immutable.

Resources and Scholarship: Jan Albers, who wrote the standard history of the Vermont landscape. Brian Donahue, *The Great Meadow* and Richard Lyman Bushman, *The American Farmer in the 18th Century* provide great insights into the colonial farming experience. Numerous environmental historians deal with more specific aspects of the landscape, including trees, soils, animals, and horticulture.

4. THE HEALING PATH

Theme: The Healing Power of Landscapes

Summary: Since its opening in 1836, the Vermont Asylum for the Insane (later called the Brattleboro Retreat) has been a private healing place for people suffering from mental illness and addictions. Its founders were proponents of a new model of care called “moral treatment,” with an emphasis on creating a home-like atmosphere with healthy food, talk therapies, rest, and productive physical work. They had a strong belief in the healing power of frequent interaction with the natural landscape. To this end, the Retreat created an extensive system of walking paths to provide patients with fresh air, exercise and enjoyment of the natural beauty of the site. The paths were also a vital component of the ‘treatments’ offered by the Wesselhoeft Water Cure, a Brattleboro spa that attracted a wealthy clientele in the mid-19th Century. The trails are still popular with visitors, patients, and local people.

Location: On the paths long used by the Retreat for patient therapy, ending at Cold Spring.

Potential Stories:

- Treatment of the mentally ill in Vermont before the Retreat was built.
- Women and philanthropy in the 19th Century. Anna Hunt Marsh, a doctor’s wife, was so shocked by the well-meaning, but devastating treatments her husband and his colleagues tried on the insane that she vowed to ‘atone’ by endowing a humane asylum, now the Brattleboro Retreat.
- The new model of “moral treatment” aspired to care for mental patients in a more ‘homelike setting, along with working roles on the farm.
- Town and hospital, the story of how the Retreat acted as a community-building force for Brattleboro.
- Nature walking as a healing force for the landscape, as well as the patients and citizens of the town.

- The history of a spa town. From 1848, Brattleboro was also home to Dr. Wesselhoeft's Water Cure, which used the Retreat's paths for its own healing exercises.
- The Wesselhoeft enterprise also attracted Southern plantation owners, who brought their slaves when they came to town for the 'cure,' and celebrity patients, like Hawthorne, Thoreau, and Emily Dickinson.
- Retreat Farm and the summer camp movement. New England's burgeoning summer camp reached the asylum community with the establishment of the Women's Summer Retreat at Linden Lodge, at the edge of the farm.
- When does a patient become an inmate...or a slave? The morality of the moral treatment movement was challenged as institutions became overcrowded and charges of forced labor called the 'moral mission' into question.
- Eugenics and the withdrawal of community support. The period from 1920-1950 saw the rise of the eugenics movement, and the withdrawal, or shunning, of the patient population by the local community.

Resources and Scholarship: Histories of mental health care in New England, but most material must come from the archives of the Brattleboro Retreat. Scholarly work on eugenics in Vermont, by Nancy L. Gallagher. Dona Brown on the history of tourism in Vermont; and various historians of the hiking movement.

5. THE RETREAT FARM PATH

Theme: The Organic Full-Circle, from Farm to Table

Summary: The Brattleboro Retreat opened in 1836 as a private psychiatric hospital using a European model of care called "moral treatment." The creation of the first asylum farm was central to this vision, and it became a model for many others. From its establishment in 1837, the Retreat Farm was meant to supply the hospital with wholesome food and warming fuel. The patients were active participants in farm life, where it was thought that they could build healthy self-esteem through productive field work and animal care. The farm has changed with the centuries, from its 19th Century beginnings, when all farms were organic, through "modern" 20th Century practices like bulk tanks, barn hygiene, and the use of agricultural chemicals, and hormones for greater yields. Now, in the 21st Century, the farm is seeing a healthy return to organic farming. For nearly two centuries, the farm's greater purpose has changed as well, from serving the needs of the hospital, to participating in the local dairying community, and now in its role as the leading southern Vermont center for learning about healthy landscapes through education, recreation, stewardship and community-building. Part of the farmstead is already being used for a successful Farm & Forest educational program and children's barnyard.

Location: The trail moves through the historic buildings of the farmstead, loops up to look at the fields that are in production under organic methods, and ends

with a visit to the children's barnyard to meet cows, pig, lambs, poultry, goats, and Carlos the ox.

Potential Stories:

- The Retreat Farm was America's first asylum farm, providing what was to become a national model.
- The 19th C. Farmhouse Square
- The farm manager's life...or how to farm with a crew of patients.
- Dairying and the age of farm improvement.
- Technological change and increasing yields through modern methods—from livestock breeding to the purported wonders of DDT..
- Retreat Farm's return to organic farming. Organic farming today, and its impact on sustainability.
- Retreat Farm becomes a center for agriculture, environmental learning and community

Resources and Scholarship: Academic literature on the history of New England farming and food systems is currently a growth sub-field of environmental history. Studies like Kendra Smith-Howard on 20th Century dairying and Anna Zeide on confidence in the American food industry have provided innovative looks at aspects of the food supply. Former Vermont Secretary of Agriculture Roger Allbee, an expert on the history of dairy farming. Retreat Farm records. Memories from doctors like Stuart Copans, who worked at the Retreat during the farming years.

PHASE 2: THE LANDSCAPE LEARNING CENTER

The Retreat Farm site provides a microcosm of many universal human experiences on the land—centuries of changing experiences, conflicts, technologies, policies, decisions, and transformations. The five Story Paths will give visitors a thematic overview of the dense layers of landscape, experience and memory the Retreat Farm site has to offer. The Landscape Learning Center will bring the visitor back to the central questions posed by the site. What is the human role in nature? Is our story an inevitable declension narrative, or can we see signs of renewed landscape health and healing? How do we put ourselves back into harmony with the natural world?

The Landscape Learning Center will be a welcoming exhibit space where the Retreat Farm's historical and environmental stories can be explored in more depth. This indoor barn plan includes modern interactive exhibits that will challenge, educate and entertain. Since no visitor will be able to walk all five outside paths in a single visit, the center will include wall art featuring a quick synopsis of all the path themes. The walls of this entry space might also be covered with copies of the many striking panorama images of Brattleboro that were done in the nineteenth century, and other historical photos, postcards and ephemera.

We look forward to input from our advisory team and museum professionals' panel for advice on themes and modes of presentation for these exhibits. Possibilities include:

The Learning Campfire

For much of our history, stories were told around an outdoor campfire, or in front of a cozy fire. In this atmospheric space, up to thirty people will sit on benches in a darkened room facing a realistic digital fireplace, where they can listen to themed stories accompanied by wall projections. The stories could include primary source accounts from the Abenaki, the French and Indian Wars, settlers, the growth of Brattleboro, Retreat farmers, the psychiatric story and patients' experiences, or any other well-documented historical subject. Program subjects would be developed over time according to visitors' needs and interests.

The Retreat Farm Map Table

This would consist of a waist-high glass table containing a topographical map of the Retreat Farm site and its environs. Projections will show the area as it was in different times—forest cover disappearing and reappearing, water courses changing and the Retreat meadows being flooded, buildings appearing and disappearing on the landscape—a microcosm of landscape change over time. It will illustrate how our decisions and actions alter the natural environment, forming layers on the landscape.

The Environmental Impact Interactive

An interactive would be developed that will allow visitors to watch a video that poses choices about changes they could make to their personal environmental practices. Using simple voting hand buttons, they will be asked questions about how they can best help the earth as the climate warms. It will give us an opportunity to test our own landscape decisions, for good and for ill. The questions will be thought-provoking, and the answers may surprise visitors.

Alternatively, individuals or small groups could sit at a screen station and watch a video projection where they would be presented with environmental alternatives and could work together to guess which options would be most sustainable.

The Retreat Farm Story Paths will be largely inaccessible during the snowy Vermont winters (though some could certainly be visited on cross-country skis), but the Landscape Learning Center will still be able to welcome school groups and visitors for more in-depth examinations of our themes. We also have additional meeting spaces for lectures, debates, meals and other programming.

The three exhibits described here are prototypes that may be supplanted by suggestions from a professional exhibit development firm. Part of the current grant we are requesting would fund a planning charrette of museum exhibit professionals and help us to identify a professional exhibit design firm.

The Retreat Farm has a rich and unique history. Its 500+ beautiful acres have many lessons to impart about different ways of understanding the land and our role on it. Some generations have lived with a lighter hand, some have wreaked landscape destruction. The trees have been cut, but many have come back to replenish the earth

and provide recreation. The Sokokis and the European people who came after them both recognized that the richest farmland was located on the meadows in the crook of the rivers, yet another generation saw these fields disappear under flooding from the Vernon dam. For the patients of the Brattleboro Retreat, it has been a homey place of healing, furnishing productive work routines and walks in the beauties of nature. Many have also known pain, overcrowding, and exploitation on these grounds. After WWII, patient labor was no longer considered acceptable, and the farm was unable to use it. The Retreat Farm remained a working dairy farm until it became a nonprofit with a new mission.

Today the Retreat Farm is dedicated to telling the story of Vermonters on the land, and what they can teach us about creating healthier landscapes and promoting sustainability, while building community in Brattleboro and southern Vermont. As the earth warms, the towns and regions that do best will be those who have learned that a healthy economy flows from healthy people making healthy landscapes. Best practices matter. Landscape beauty matters. We want our visitors to fall in love with this stunning site and be inspired to think about how they can make their own corners of the world healthier for generations to come. Retreat Farm may be a small, but its stories are universal human stories of life on earth. It has a lot to teach us about how investing in a sustainable landscape increases civic capital, fosters community, and heals us all through creating a healthier world.

PROJECT AND ORGANIZATION HISTORY

The Brattleboro Retreat, originally known as the Vermont Asylum for the Insane, was founded in 1834, opening its doors in 1836 as an innovative private mental hospital offering “moral treatment.” A central part of its mission was the establishment of an adjacent farm—the first of its kind—to furnish food, fuel, and therapeutic work opportunities for the patients. By the late-20th Century, improvements in medications, and governmental regulations had made the original patient-driven farm model obsolete. In 2001, the Windham Foundation took ownership of the property, joining with the Brattleboro Retreat, the Vermont Land Trust, the Preservation Trust of Vermont, and the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board to preserve the remaining 612-acre property in perpetuity. In 2015, the property became Retreat Farm, Ltd., a 501(c)3 nonprofit to revitalize the farm, forest, and historic buildings, and to develop community building projects.

Under the leadership of Arthur “Buzz” Schmidt, Retreat Farm, Ltd. has gone from strength to strength. Many of the farm’s iconic buildings have been renovated, and others are soon to be restored and repurposed for education, events and lodging. A vibrant education program, Children’s Farm and Forest, is attracting families from all over the region, lured by its engaging education programs and children’s barnyard. Farmhouse Square has become a popular community venue for concerts, fairs, and weekly “Food Truck Thursdays.” Our meeting spaces host lectures, debates, conferences, workshops, meals, and other gatherings to educate the public and create community. We are dedicated to promoting a healthy regenerating economy in our

region. The farm's fields are being turned back into organic farming under the stewardship of a local organic dairy, and there will someday be programs to teach more farmers to make that transition. Retreat Farm support families at risk, with wellness and nutrition programs, as well as free or reduced admission to our programs. We seek to involve every person in the community with specific attention to low income people whom we reach through partnerships with the local social service agencies. We subsidize their visits with reduced or free admission to our Children's Farm and Forest, meals at the weekly community food truck nights and our summer children's free meal program. The entire property is open to the public and regarded as a public park. Brattleboro has a lively local history, arts and cultural scene. The Retreat Farm is partnering with many local organizations, including the Brattleboro Words Project, the Brattleboro Museum and Arts Center, the Brattleboro Music Center, the Brattleboro Historical Society, and others.

The Retreat Farm's mission is "to build healthy lives, families, and communities by connecting people to the land and each other." It is quickly becoming an essential community-building place for all of southern Vermont and beyond. While Shelburne Farm and Billings Farm serve as centers for agricultural education in the northern half of Vermont, there was no such agriculturally based education facility in southern Vermont. It is an important resource for the public, and school groups, in a part of the state that has been underserved. The Brattleboro school system, and the town, already have active local history programs. We look forward to involving them in the creation of content—podcasts and other programming—in the coming years. The Retreat Farm attracts school programs and will bring in far more students once the Story Paths and the Landscape Learning Center are complete.

Under the guidance of Project Director Jan Albers, we have spent the past eighteen months laying the groundwork for humanities-based landscape education at the Retreat Farm. This has included in-depth research on the history of the Retreat Farm site in its regional, state, and national contexts. We have established relationships with scholars, indigenous communities, cultural institutions, and Brattleboro's lively community of local historians, drawing on their expertise to create a preliminary overview of the history of the site. These conversations and communications have led to the preliminary museum format presented in this grant proposal. The planning grant will allow us to test our themes and subjects with the help of our panels of experts as polish our plan before implementation.

PROJECT RESOURCES

The Retreat Farm has proved to be an effective fundraising organization. Since its inception as a nonprofit four years ago, it has raised upwards of \$8 million from donors, regional foundations, memberships and program admissions. In 2019, we have received fourteen grants and sponsorships totaling \$725,450 and another \$30,500 in sponsorships from ten local businesses. The Retreat Farm will be applying for additional regional grants to support the planning process. We may be a young organization, but we have established a strong track record in fundraising.

While most of the costs of the planning process would be funded by the NEH grant, the Retreat Farm commits to paying 40% of the project director's salary and incidental expenses.

AUDIENCE

Vermont welcomes over 13 million tourists a year, the vast majority of whom enter the state via I-91. The Brattleboro exit from the freeway lies five minutes from the Retreat Farm, vastly expanding our potential visitor market. Nearly 50% of these tourists come from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and New York, many within a day-trip drive of our site. A state survey found that around 75% of them mention Vermont's "unspoiled landscape" as one of the major factors drawing them to the state. The Retreat Farm is currently welcoming about 40,000 visitors a year, and we hope to increase this substantially once the landscape museum projects are finished. We envision a future where families will make a day of visiting our site—walking a couple of the Story Paths, enjoying the interactive exhibits in the Landscape Learning Center, petting the animals, eating lunch in the café, and visiting the adjacent farm store.

The Story Paths will be a major enhancement to the Retreat Farm's educational mission of creating a healthier future for our community and the wider world. Through the power of the humanities, we will inspire a stronger sense of place and a deeper commitment to the landscape. This jewel of a Vermont farm can empower community members, visitors, farmers and entrepreneurs to build healthier futures for their communities. Our walks will guide our visitors through the impactful worlds of past decisions and teach them how to make their local landscapes into healthier places for their children and grandchildren.

RETREAT FARM WORK PLAN

| DATE | TASK | PERSONNEL | PRODUCT |
|------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| SEPT. 2020 | Develop Planning Charette Discuss Charrette Goals | Project Director (PD) Program Team | Final Timing/Venues |
| OCT. 2020 | Develop and Distribute | PD | Charrette Activities Finalized Charrette Reading Packets |
| OCT. 2020 | Hold Planning Charrette | Project Team Advisory Team | Solicit Scholarly Expertise (late) on Humanities Themes |
| NOV. 2020 | Analyze Charrette Input | Planning Team | Hone Humanities Themes & Overall Plan |
| | Write Charrette Report Follow Ups with Advisor Team | PD | Report Finished |
| DEC. 2020 | Continue Research Museum Professional Develop Goals for Museum Team | PD | Finalize Museum Set Meeting Date |

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|---|
| JAN. 2021 | Research Exhibit Formats Discussions of Exhibit Formats | PD Planning Team | Delineate the Possible for the Site |
| FEB. 2021 | Prepare Introductory Packets for Museum Team | Planning Team | Packets Finished and Distributed |
| MARCH 2021 | Museum Team Meetings Write Report on Museum | Planning Team/ Museum Team PD | Hold Two-Day Exhibits Brainstorm Distribute Report to Teams Write Report on Meetings |
| APRIL 2021 | Solicit Input on Museum Report from Advisory Team Groups Chosen From the Community | PD Planning Team | Hone Themes/Modes of Presentation Test Public Response |
| MAY 2021 | Discuss Overall Interpretive Goals Work on Exhibitions Plan | Program Team/ Advisory Team Program Team/ | Hone Exhibits Goals |
| JUNE 2021 | Preliminary Interviews | Program Team | Analyze Design Approaches |
| JULY AUGUST 2021 | Write Interpretive Plan | PD with Program Team Input | Finish Interpretive Plan |

PROJECT TEAM

Retreat Farm Staff:

Arthur “Buzz” Schmidt (President, Retreat Farm, Ltd.) Chairman of the F.B. Heron Foundation, leads Retreat Farm, Ltd., a nonprofit that is conserving an historic institutional farm in Vermont and repurposing it to support sustainable lands-based enterprise. He founded and led GuideStar USA and subsequently GuideStar International over a twenty-year period. These organizations report the work of the world’s nonprofit organizations at online repositories in several countries. Today he also serves on the boards of the Permanent Fund for Vermont’s Children and the Vermont Council on Rural Development. He was named US Nonprofit Executive of the Year by The Nonprofit Times in 1999; one of six visionary leaders in philanthropy by Time in 2001; and one of the 25 individuals who most shaped the nonprofit sector over the past 25 years by The Nonprofit Times in 2012. He’s a graduate of Princeton (AB-History) and Stanford (MBA and MA Education).

Lu Neuse (Program Director) Lu Neuse graduated from Dartmouth College and an M.Ed. in early childhood education from Antioch University New England. She now works as the Program Director at Retreat Farm, Ltd. In this capacity, she develops programs, organizes events, and is an enthusiastic researcher. Her deep familiarity with the site, and enthusiasm for history, make her a valuable voice on the team. She brings years of experience working with people of all ages to understand the human place in the landscape.

Wendy Ferris (Advancement Director) Wendy Ferris is the Advancement Director for Retreat Farm, Ltd. She received her B.A. from Lafayette College, and an M.A. in City/Urban, Community and Regional Planning from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Her contributions extend beyond the financial side of the institution, as she brings a creative mind to program content as well as funding.

Contract Employee:

Jan Albers (Project Director, Historical Consultant) Jan Albers graduated from Carleton College (B.A.) and received her Ph.D. from Yale, specializing in British and Colonial American history. She has taught at Yale, Middlebury and St. Michael's Colleges in Vermont, and the University of Sussex in England. Her scholarly work focuses on the history of the Vermont landscape. Her bestselling book, *Hands on the Land: A History of the Vermont Landscape* (M.I.T Press and the Orton Family Foundation, 2000) uses a historical narrative, maps, photographs, and first-person stories to provide a humanities-oriented history of how centuries of Vermonters created and experienced the landscapes they were layering in this place. For six years she was the Executive Director of the Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History in Middlebury, Vermont. She has done consulting work for the Billings Farm and Museum and the Shelburne Museum. As a consultant to this project, she has researched the site, working with academic scholars, indigenous leaders, and local historians to develop a preliminary museum plan.

HUMANITIES SCHOLARS AND CONSULTANTS

Roger Allbee received his B.A. from the University of Vermont and his MS from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in agricultural economics, as well as receiving training in the Cornell Executives program. He has held numerous leadership roles in Vermont agriculture, including serving as the state's Secretary of Agriculture from 2007-2010. Allbee has sat on the board of Union Institute and University and held the position of CEO of Grace Cottage Hospital in Townshend, Vermont from 2014-2018. He is the co-founder of ViewBoost, a state-of-the-art location and events app. He has done extensive writing on the history of dairy farming in the state.

Paul Bierman is a geography professor at the University of Vermont. He obtained his BA from Williams College, and an M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Washington. His subject area is the human impact on the landscape, which he envisions as a humanist as well as a scientist. He involved people in communities all over Vermont in creating of the Vermont Landscape Change website, which hosts over 70,000 images of Vermont then and now. (<https://www.uvm.edu/landscape/>). He has also written a study of the building of the interstate highway system in Vermont. His scholarship, environmental knowledge, love of history, creativity and enthusiasm make him a valuable addition to the team.

Paul Carnahan is the Librarian at the Vermont Historical Society. He earned his B.A. in history and political science at Swarthmore College, and an M.A. in library science at

the University of Chicago. He brings a voluminous knowledge of Vermont history, with the additional advantage of being a native son of Brattleboro.

Rich Holschuh is a resident of Windham County (Wintastegok/Brattleboro) of Mi'kmaq and European heritage. He serves on the Vermont Commission for Native American Affairs, and as a public liaison for the Elnu Abenaki Tribe, representing with governmental agencies of oversight such as the Federal Regulatory Commission (FERC), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the Vermont State Department of Historic Preservation (DHP). He works with tribal groups, corporate entities, local and state agencies, civic groups, and public and private educational institutions, providing outreach and building connections. His writings on indigenous subjects are well-researched and profound.

Starr LaTronica has served as Director of the Brooks Memorial Library in Brattleboro, Vermont since 2016. She is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley (AB, Spanish; MLS, Library and Information Services). Before coming to Vermont, she worked as a children's librarian and senior librarian at the Berkeley Public Library. She then spent twenty-four years as the Youth Services/Outreach Manager in the Four County Library System in Vestal, New York. She has been an adjunct faculty member in the Graduate School of Education at Binghamton University, and is a Past President of the Association for Library Service for Children.

Jill Lepore is the David Woods Kemper Professor of American History at Harvard University, where she has taught since 2003. She received her B.A. from Tufts University in English, M.A. from the University of Michigan in American Culture, and Ph.D. in American Studies from Yale. She is also a staff writer at the *New Yorker*. Lepore is one of the most prominent and widely read historians at work today. Her most recent book is *This America: The Case for the Nation* (2019). In 2018, her book *These Truths: A History of the United States* became an international bestseller. *Time* featured it in its list of the ten most important non-fiction books of the decade. She has received many awards, including the National Book Award and two Pulitzer Prizes.

Kathryn Morse is the John Elder Professor of Environmental Studies at Middlebury College. She received her B.A. from Yale College, an M.A. from Utah State, and a Ph.D. in History from the University of Washington. She is a well-known environmental historian of the American West, and a notable writer and reviewer of works in environmental studies. Professor Morse is also one of Middlebury College's most popular teachers, stimulating great student interest in the areas of history and environmental studies. She brings a powerful mind, an extensive knowledge of environmental history, an ability to teach, and great enthusiasm to our project.

Roger Longtoe Sheehan is the Chief of the Elnu Abenaki Tribe and a member of the Vermont Abenaki Artists Association (VAAA). He is an actor and director, known for the film *Dawnland* (2009). He is an accomplished Abenaki artisan, storyteller, drummer, and singer.

RETREAT FARM PROJECT AND ADVISORY TEAMS

NEH PROJECT TEAM

Arthur “Buzz” Schmidt—President & Executive Director, Retreat Farm, Ltd.,

Lu Neuse—Program Director, Retreat Farm, Ltd.

Wendy Ferris—Advancement Director, Retreat Farm Ltd.

Dr. Jan Albers—Project Director, Historical Consultant (History Ph.D., Yale)

ADVISORY TEAM

SCHOLARS

Dr. Paul Bierman (Geology, University of Vermont)

Dr. Jill Lepore (American History, Harvard)

Dr. Kathryn Morse (American Environmental History, Middlebury College)

CONSULTANTS

Roger Allbee (MS, Agricultural Economics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Former Vermont Secretary of Agriculture)

Paul Carnahan (MA, Library Science, University of Chicago, Vermont Historical Society Librarian)

Rich Holschuh (Prominent Native American liaison and cultural figure)

Starr LaTronica (ML.S, Berkeley, Director of Brooks Memorial Library, Brattleboro)

Chief Roger Longtoe Sheehan (Leader of the Ulnu Abenaki Tribe, storyteller and craftsman)

Arthur (Buzz) Schmidt - Resume

Current Position:

Retreat Farm, Ltd., Founder and President

Boards:

FB Heron Foundation (NYC) - Chair and Director

Vermont Council on Rural Development (Montpelier) - Director

Let's Grow Kids (Burlington) - Director

Former Positions:

GuideStar International (London) (national databases for nonprofit) - CEO, Founder

GuideStar USA (Williamsburg, VA) (database for US nonprofit sector) - CEO, Founder

TechnoServe (Washington) - (international development agency) VP Program Support

Minnesota Cooperation Office for Small Business and Job Creation (Minneapolis) VP Representative
James M. Jeffords (Washington, DC)- Legislative Assistant

Former Boards:

Nonprofit Quarterly (Boston) President of Board and Director

GuideStar International, (London) Chair, Director

GuideStar USA (Williamsburg VA) Chair, Director

TechSoup Global (San Francisco) Director

Preservation Virginia (Richmond) Director

Institute for Philanthropy (London)- Director

Recognition:

National Nonprofit Executive of the Year - 2000 - *Nonprofit Times*

One of 6 Leaders in Philanthropy - 1999 - *Time*

One of 25 Most Influential Nonprofit Sector Actors in Past 25 Years - 2013 - *Nonprofit Times*

Education:

Princeton University - AB cum laude in American History, Senior Thesis- "The Hillside Mentality - The Governorship of George Aiken"

Stanford University - MBA and MA in Academic Administration

Articles: Numerous published articles on philanthropy, impact investing, and contributions of enterprises to regenerative capital of society.

Lu Neuse

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Experience

RETREAT FARM LTD.

BRATTLEBORO, VT

Founding Program Director

May 2015 - present

Develop programs and policy for new, rapidly-growing nonprofit institution that connects people to the land and each other.

Design and direct “Children’s Farm and Forest” experiential education program serving 60+ local schools, 400 member families, and over 20,000 visitors in 2019

Design and facilitate educational workshops and field trips for preschool, elementary, and middle-school students

Administer program and farm budget

Hire and manage farm and education staff, including staff development, scheduling, and supervision

Develop initiatives and collaborations; including garden and nutrition classes and services for low-income families and ecological farming operations on 220 acres

THE GLEANERY

PUTNEY, VT

Farm-to-Table Chef

2014 - 2015

KROKA EXPEDITIONS

MARLOW, NH

Project Manager and Guest Teacher

2014 - 2015

Designed and managed publications and special projects, led expeditions and summer programs

Vermont Semester Teacher and Coordinator

2010 - 2013

Taught and led semester students throughout five-month, 600-mile journey by ski and canoe

Managed projects, guided summer programs and school groups, worked on farm and facilities

EARTHWALK VERMONT

PLAINFIELD, VT

Teen Land Project Coordinator and Development Associate

2013 - 2014

Developed and taught nature mentoring and service learning program for teens

Managed fundraising events and special projects and wrote and administered grants

ADVENTURE TREKS

FLAT ROCK, NC

Wilderness Instructor and Food Manager

Summers 2007 - 2010 and 2013

MISSION HILL SCHOOL

ROXBURY, MA

Student Teacher, K-1st Grade

2009

C. P. SMITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BURLINGTON, VT

Student Teacher, 5th Grade

2008

SHELBURNE FARMS

SHELBURNE, VT

Sustainable Schools Project Intern, Lawrence Barnes School

2008

• Designed and taught science and literacy units to fulfill K-2nd grade science standards

BELLWETHER SCHOOL

WILLISTON, VT

Afternoon Program Teacher and Coordinator

2007 - 2008

THE FARM SCHOOL
Farmer/Teacher, Program for Visiting Schools

ATHOL, MA
2007

THE DREAM PROGRAM
Camp DREAM Operations Director

BURLINGTON, VT
2004 - 2006

- Directed free summer camp for youth from affordable housing neighborhoods
- Developed program, service learning opportunities, retreats, and work projects
- Managed paid staff, work crews, and volunteer counselors

GREEN MOUNTAIN CLUB
Long Trail Patrol

WATERBURY CENTER, VT
Summers 2003 - 2004

CAMBRIDGE FRIENDS SCHOOL
Educator, 3rd Grade and After-School Program

CAMBRIDGE, MA
2002 - 2004

Education

ANTIOCH UNIVERSITY NEW ENGLAND
M.Ed. in Elementary and Early Childhood Education

KEENE, NH
June 2009

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
B.A. in Anthropology

HANOVER, NH
June 2002

Volunteer Activities

THE DREAM PROGRAM
Founding Mentor, Member of the Board of Directors, Alumni Council

BURLINGTON, VT
1999 - present

GIRLS ON THE RUN
Coach, Sustainability Academy at Lawrence Barnes School

BURLINGTON, VT
2010

ESSEX RESCUE
Emergency Medical Technician - Basic

ESSEX JUNCTION, VT
2005 - 2006

THE POSSIBILITIES ALLIANCE
Volunteer Organizer, Haul of Justice Bicycle Expedition

LA PLATA, MO
2001 - 2004

DARTMOUTH ORGANIC FARM
Farmer and Tucker Fellowship Student Farm Manager

HANOVER, NH
1999 - 2002

DARTMOUTH OUTING CLUB
Division Chair and Trip Leader

HANOVER, NH
1999 - 2002

Skills

Wilderness First Responder, Trail Running, Cycling, Skiing, Yoga, Gardening, Pottery, Painting, Drawing, Photography, Adobe CS

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Wendy Sweetser Ferris

45 Farmhouse Square, Brattleboro, VT 05301 wferris@retreatfarm.org

EDUCATION

Certificate in Nonprofit Management, Marlboro College, 2017

Master of Regional Planning, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 2002

Bachelor of Arts Degree, Lafayette College, 1998

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Advancement Director, Retreat Farm, November 2018 to present

- Spearhead strategic philanthropic initiatives, including grant research, proposal development, and reporting;
- Cultivate donors, community leaders, business sponsors, and organizational partners as enthusiastic and valued supporters;
- Support organizational communications, partnerships, membership strategy, and events;
- Assist in creating a comprehensive arts strategy and visible on-farm presence.

Assistant Executive Director, Franklin Land Trust, 2018

- Assisted in all aspects of major donor cultivation, communications, and stewardship;
- Provided comprehensive coordination to align outreach strategies, communication mediums, internal priorities, and organizational partnerships;
- Spearheaded strategic educational and partnership building programs for the Board of Directors;
- continued to fulfill Director of Outreach duties described below;

Director of Community Outreach, Franklin Land Trust, 2012-July 2018

- Managed external relationships to maximize organizational visibility, community and member engagement, and land conservation opportunities;
- Administered and implemented \$912,000 in private grants and federal and state contracts, including grant writing, contracts and billing, staff oversight, project deliverables, and continued positive relationships with partners;
- Represented FLT with elected officials, community organizations and leaders, and land trust peers to effectively advocate for land conservation and help achieve FLT's mission and objectives.

Consultant, Healthy Hampshire, January-April 2014

- Conducted research, interviews, and site visits, culminating in an assessment of obstacles and opportunities for healthy eating and active living in the Hilltowns of Hampshire county.

Director, Highland Communities Initiative, The Trustees of Reservations, 2004 to 2012

- Worked with residents, landowners and town leaders to make proactive decisions about the future of their community;
- Led annual programming and strategic planning efforts;
- Raised and managed \$900,000 in donations and program grants and contracts;
- Managed annual budgets, staff, consultants, and volunteers;
- Conducted all aspects of program delivery, including technical assistance, publication writing, editing, and dissemination, small grants, and community outreach;
- Planned and organized 175 workshops, conferences, and interpretive walks; and
- Created an active network of 4,000 citizens.

Bullitt Reservation Property Manager, The Trustees of Reservations, 2010 to 2012

- Managed 262 acre property and newly renovated energy-efficient farmhouse;
- Spearheaded property management planning process and community outreach;
- Organized ten educational workshops on climate change, deep-energy retrofits, and sustainable gardening;
- Coordinated planning, design, permitting, and construction of three multi-use trails.

Project Coordinator, Highland Communities Initiative, The Trustees of Reservations, 2002 to 2004

- Served as circuit-rider planner and provided assistance writing and editing zoning bylaws to 38 towns;
- Organized over 40 workshops, conferences, field visits, and interpretive walks;
- Assisted in project management, research, and dissemination.

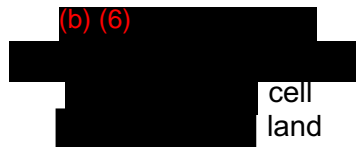
PUBLICATIONS

- Tapping Social Networks for Sustainability, Planning Advisory Service Technical Report, American Planning Association, Spring 2011
- Hamin, Elisabeth, Meg Ounsworth, and Wendy Sweetser; Grassroots Growth Management-The Community Preservation Act, Journal of Planning Education and Research, Fall 2006, Vol 26, No 1.
- Co-authored landowner outreach publication series on land conservation, forest management, and estate planning: Your Land, Your Choices; Your Land, Your Financial Choices; Your Land, Your Legacy; and Chapter 61B Open Space and Recreational Land

VOLUNTEER SERVICE

- Buckland Recreation Committee, 2015- present
- Berkshire Pioneer Resource Conservation and Development Board Member, 2006-2011
- Hilltown Land Trust Board Member, 2006 to 2010
- Northampton Conservation Commission Member, 2003 to 2006
- University of Massachusetts Waugh Alumni Board of Directors, 2002 to 2008
- Planning Student Organization President, University of Massachusetts, 2001-2002

JAN ALBERS
Nonprofit Administrator, Consultant, Historian, Writer



EXPERIENCE:

- Leadership in nonprofit strategic and interpretive planning
- Consultant in creative planning in the areas of land use, history and museums
- Experience in leading community visioning exercises to help Vermont towns retain their landscape heritage
- Nonprofit administration
- Expertise in Vermont land use history and management
- Fundraising
- Extensive public speaking on Vermont land use history and issues, including over 200 talks throughout the state.

EMPLOYMENT:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Jan. 2019-present | Retreat Farm Historical Consultant and Project Planner |
| 2005-2011 | Executive Director, Henry Sheldon Museum of Vermont History, Middlebury, Vermont |
| 2005-present | Consulting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Woodstock Foundation/Billings Farm Museum• UVM Vermont Landscape Change Program• Library of Congress/UVM Vermont Digital Newspaper Project• Shelburne Museum, Vermont Historical Society, Rokeby Museum |
| 2004-05 | Development Director, Otter View Park Project, Middlebury Area Land Trust |
| 2001 | Developed and Presented "Imagining the Vermont Landscape" community workshops in five Vermont towns in conjunction with the Orton Family Foundation, the Rutland Regional Planning Commission, the Vermont Historical Society, the Woodstock Foundation and Building a Better Brattleboro. |
| 1997-2003 | Writer and Lecturer, The Orton Family Foundation |
| 2000-present | Lecturer on the Vermont landscape--past, present and future 200+ talks, including the Aiken Lecture at UVM. |
| Sept. 1995- | Women's Center Administrator, Chellis House, May 1997 Women's Center, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont. |

COLLEGE TEACHING:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Jan. 1999-2005 | Visiting Assistant Professor, Winter Term, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont, teaching, "The History of the Vermont Landscape." |
| 2001 | Visiting Professor, Green Mountain College, course on the history of the Vermont Landscape. |
| 1993-5 | Adjunct Professor, St. Michael's College |
| 1990-1 | Visiting Assistant Professor of History, University of Sussex, England |
| 1988-9 | Visiting Assistant Professor, Middlebury College |
| 1987-8 | Lecturer, Yale University |

PUBLICATIONS:

Hands on the Land: A History of the Vermont Landscape, M.I.T. Press and The Orton Family Foundation (Cambridge, MA 2000).
 "Barn Swing," *Vermont Magazine*, Fall 2000.
 "Past Times," *Addison Independent*, monthly history column, 2006-11

PRIZES WON:

Hands on the Land has won four prizes.

| | |
|------|---|
| 2002 | Book of the Year, Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities |
| 2001 | Vermont Book of the Year, Vermont Milestone Awarded, Vermont Book Professionals Association |
| 2001 | Book of the Year, Pioneer America Society |
| 2000 | Book of the Year, National Arbor Day Foundation |

EDUCATION:

Ph.D. in History, Yale University, 1988
 M.Phil., Yale University, 1982
 M.A., Yale University, 1981
 B.A., Carleton College, 1978

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

| | |
|---------|---|
| 2011 | NEH grant panelist, America's Historical and Cultural Organizations panel for projects from \$40,000-\$1,000,000. |
| 2006-11 | American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) Vermont Team Leader |

CIVIC ACTIVITIES:

Weybridge Planning Commission, Chair, 2004-2014, Member 2019-20
 Addison County Regional Planning Commission, 2004-2010
 250th Anniversary Committee Co-chair, Weybridge and Middlebury, 2011
 Henry Sheldon Museum Board, 2001-2005
 Rokeby Museum Board, 2000-20

The University of Vermont

DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY
DELAHANTY HALL
180 COLCHESTER AVENUE
BURLINGTON, VERMONT 05405-1758
(802) 656-3396
FAX (802) 656-0045



January 2, 2020

Dear Ms. Albers,

I am writing to offer my enthusiastic support for your NEH grant proposal requesting funding for the Retreat Farm Story Paths and Landscape Learning Center.

As a geologist focused on the human impact on the landscape, I led the team that created the Vermont Landscape Change website (<https://www.uvm.edu/landscape/>) – a collection of 72,000+ images of Vermont as it was and as it is. This project showed me how easy it is to engage people in learning about the changing face of the places they know best using visual clues. Your project strikes me as another creative template for involving people in the history, and future, of a changing landscape.

There has never been a time when it is more important for people to have a clear understanding of how humans have affected the landscapes of the past, and what they need to do to protect the landscapes of the future. With climate rapidly changing and population expanding, caring for and understanding the land is critical.

Your project sounds like an exciting forum for deepening our understanding of the Vermont landscape. I look forward to attending your planning charrette and am happy to offer whatever assistance I can to this important initiative both from my geologic perspective and as a person who cares deeply about human/landscape interaction.

I hope we are able to work together soon.



Dr. Paul Bierman
Professor of Geology and Natural Resources

Paul R. Bierman, Professor
Department of Geology and School of Natural Resources, University of Vermont

(a) Professional Preparation

BA, 1985, Geology and Environmental Studies, Williams College, Williamstown, MA
"Deglaciation of Northwestern Massachusetts" (cum laude and senior thesis)
MS, 1990, Geology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA with A. Gillespie
"Accuracy and Precision of Rock Varnish Cation Ratio Dating"
Ph.D., 1993, Geology, University of Washington, Seattle, WA with A. Gillespie
"Cosmogenic Isotopes and the Evolution of Granitic Landforms"

(b) Appointments

2002-present Professor Univ. Vermont, Geology and Natural Resources
1998-2002 Associate Professor Univ. Vermont, Geology and Natural Resources
1993-1998 Assistant Professor Univ. of Vermont
1992-1993 Lecturer University of Washington
1993 Visiting Researcher University of Adelaide
1987-1992 Research and Teaching Assistant University of Washington

(c) Products

5 publications most closely related to the proposed project (italic=student)

Vang, A. and Bierman, P., (2013) The cultural legacy of the Vermont Interstate System, **Walloomsack Review**.

Bierman, P.R., Howe, J., Stanley-Mann, E., Peabody, M., Hilke, J., and Massey, C.A., (2005). Old images record landscape change through time **GSA Today**. V. 15, n. 4, 10:1130/1052-5173(2005)015, p.1-6.

Bierman, P.R., Gould, P., Lamb, J., Norton, S., Massey, C.A., Olson, J., Reusser, L., and Ungerleider, J. (2008). Global Climate Change - Motivated High School Students Gain their Voice, **National Association for Gifted Children Journal**, p. 1-9.

Massey, C.A. and Bierman, P.R. (2007). Teachers and kids dig old photos, **National Association for Gifted Children Journal**, p. 5-6.

Bierman, P.R. (2000) Henry's Land, in **The Earth Around Us: Maintaining A Livable Planet**, J. Schniederma, ed., Freeman, p. 47-56.

5 most significant publications (italic=student)

Bierman, P. and Montgomery, D. (2014, 2020) Key Concepts in Geomorphology, W.H. **Freeman**, ISBN-10: 1429238607. 1st and 2nd editions.

Bierman, P., Shakun, J., Rood, D, Corbett, L., and Zimmerman, S. (2016). Marine-sediment ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al records of a persistent and dynamic East Greenland Ice Sheet over the past 7.5 Myr. **Nature**. 540, 256–260. doi:10.1038/nature20147.

Portenga, E. and Bierman, P. R. (2011) Understanding Earth's eroding surface with ¹⁰Be. **GSA Today**.

- Bierman, P. R., Corbett, L., Graly, J., Neumann, T, Lini, A., Crosby, B., and Rood, D., (2014), Preservation of a pre-glacial landscape under the center of the Greenland Ice Sheet, **Science**. 10.1126/science.1249047
- Bierman, P. (1994) Using in situ cosmogenic isotopes to estimate rates of landscape evolution: A review from the geomorphic perspective. **Journal of Geophysical Research** (special issue on Tectonics and Topography), 99, B-7, 13,885-13,896.

(d) Synergistic Activities

- Innovations in teaching, training, and mentoring – NSF Directors Distinguished Teaching Scholar award, 2005. Development of student-centered, inquiry-based, data collection courses in Geomorphology, Geohydrology, and Interdisciplinary Watershed studies documented in 4 refereed papers in the Journal of Geologic Education (2010, 2003, 1999, 1996). Creation of introductory Earth Hazards and Climate Change classes for non-science majors to increase student interest and involvement, documented in refereed lead article in EOS (2003). Lead author (with NSF CCLI support) of first new Geomorphology textbook in 20 years, *Key Concepts in Geomorphology*. Contributing author to Pipkin et al., *Geology and the Environment* (eds 5, 6, and 7). Primary mentor to 36 graduate students (of which 18 are female) including 6 doctorates.
- Development and refinement of research tools – Fundamental work with graduate students developing and refining use of cosmogenic nuclides for monitoring rates of surface processes (www.uvm.edu/cosmolab). Six major review publications (1994, 1998, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2011) and >150 refereed articles and book chapters with new data. Developed tools for reconstructing Holocene paleostorminess history of New England under NSF CAREER support. Donath Medal for Research by Young Scientist, Geological Society of America, 1996.
- Service learning and service to community – Urban hydrology projects with classes and interns working with Burlington City government to document loss of greenspace and increase in run off from campus neighborhoods. Documented in Nichols et al. (2003, Journal of Geologic Education). Associate Editor, Geology and GSAB; editorial board, DLESE. Chair, GSA Quaternary & Geomorphology Division (2009)
- Outreach and Leadership efforts – 24 years teaching strands in Governors Institute for Science at University of Vermont engaging highly motivated High School students (www.uvm.edu/giv). Collected and analyzed hundreds of Burlington, Vermont soil samples to determine extent of lead contamination. Directed NSF-supported Landscape Change Program working with communities to document landscape change over time through photography (www.uvm.edu/landscape). Directed UVM NSF EPSCoR Integrated water in the Environment (www.uvm.edu/~irwe)

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

201 ROBINSON HALL • CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

TEL (617) 495-2556/2545

FAX (617) 496-3425

December 12, 2019

To Whom it May Concern:

I write this letter in order to confirm my confirm of and participation in the proposed Brattleboro Retreat Farm project, in support of its NEH application. The project aims to develop a new outdoor museum employing a humanities approach to connect, teach and enrich public understanding of Vermont's iconic landscape as a microcosm of the place of humans on the earth. It's an exciting and important project, its ambitions well-considered and suited to its community.

My involvement in the project builds on my work as an American historian and on my record of publication and also on my attachment to this community: my family has a farm in Brattleboro. I've also spent some time over at the Retreat Farm's six hundred acres, and toured the barns and other outbuildings. The site, with the exceptional staff, farmers, and scholars who are working to develop it, offers an extraordinary and rare opportunity for the establishment of a new cultural hub in southern Vermont, one dedicated to environmental education and even to civic education. I look forward to the development of this important project: the building of a museum of the landscape that helps visits to find their own sense of place.

With thanks,



Jill Lepore

David Woods Kemper '41 Professor of History and Harvard College Professor

JILL LEPORE

Kemper Professor of American History

Harvard University Robinson Hall
Cambridge, MA 02138

[Website jlepore@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:jlepore@fas.harvard.edu)

EDUCATION

Ph.D. M. Phil. M.A. B.A.

EMPLOYMENT

2007-present 2015-present 2012-2017 2008-present 2005-10; 12-14 2005-2008 2003-2007 2001-2003 1996-2001
1995-1996

Kemper Professor of American History Harvard University Robinson Hall
Cambridge, MA 02138 [Website jlepore@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:jlepore@fas.harvard.edu)

Yale University, American Studies, 1995

Yale University, American Studies, 1993

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, American Culture, 1990 Tufts University, English, 1987

David Woods Kemper '41 Professor of American History, Harvard University Affiliated Faculty, Harvard Law
School

Harvard College Professor, Harvard University

Staff Writer, *The New Yorker*

Chair, History and Literature Program, Harvard University

Contributing Writer, *The New Yorker*

Professor, History Department, Harvard University

Associate Professor, History Department, Boston University

Assistant Professor, History Department, Boston University

Assistant Professor, History Department, University of California, San Diego

HONORARY DEGREES

2021 Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*, Yale University (anticipated)

2020 Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*, University of Pennsylvania (anticipated) 2018 Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*, Bates College

2017 Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*, University of Warwick

2015 Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*, Bowdoin College

2014 Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*, Tufts University

2013 Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*, Colgate University

2003 Master of Arts, *honoris causa*, Harvard University

BOOKS

These Truths: A History of the United States. New York: W.W. Norton, in progress (textbook).

If/Then: How Simulmatics Corporation Invented the Future. New York: Liveright/Norton, forthcoming, 2020.

This America: The Case for the Nation. New York: Liveright, 2019. Audio: Penguin Random House Audio.

German translation, Munich: C.H. Beck, 2019.

UK edition, London: John Murray, 2019.

These Truths: A History of the United States. New York and London: W.W. Norton, 2018 (trade book). An excerpt appeared in the *Times Literary Supplement*, October 2018.

International bestseller. *New York Times* Editors' Choice. Amazon Bestseller. *New York Times* Bestseller. *New York Times* Notable Book. An Amazon Best Book of the Year. *Washington Post* Notable Book of the Year. *Time* magazine Best Book of the Year. Kirkus Best Book of the Year. *Times Higher Education* Best Book of the Year. Arthur Ross Award Finalist, Council on Foreign Relations. Winner of the Massachusetts Book Award. Finalist for the Cundhill History Prize. Winner of the Arthur Ross Book Award of the Council on Foreign Relations. Named one of the ten most important books of the decade by *Time*.

Theatrical rights optioned by The Acting Company (Ian Belknap, dir.), 2018.

Joe Gould's Teeth. New York: Knopf, 2016; Vintage, 2017. Audio: Random House Audio.

The Secret History of Wonder Woman. New York: Knopf, 2014. *New York Times* and national bestseller. New York: Vintage, 2015; paperback edition with a new Afterword. Excerpted in *The New Yorker* and *Smithsonian Magazine*; in the UK in *The Guardian* (2014); and in the *Toronto Star* in Canada (2014). Second serial in *Ms.* magazine (2015). Winner of the 2015 American History Book Prize.

Book of Ages: The Life and Opinions of Jane Franklin. New York: Knopf, 2013. Audio: Recorded Books, 2013. Large print edition, Thorndike, 2013. A finalist for the 2013 National Book Award for Nonfiction. A *New York Times* Notable Book. *Publishers' Weekly*, Barnes and Noble, *Washington Post* and *Entertainment Weekly*, Ten Best Books of 2013. Winner of the Mark Lynton History Prize, *Time* Magazine's #1 Nonfiction Book of the Year.

The Story of America: Essays on Origins. Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2012; paperback 2013. Audible audio edition, 2012. A finalist for the 2013 PEN Literary Award for the art of the essay.

The Mansion of Happiness: A History of Life and Death. New York: Knopf, 2012; Vintage 2013. Brilliance audio edition, 2012. Chinese translation, Beijing: Beijing Mediatime Books, 2013. A finalist for the 2013 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction.

The Whites of Their Eyes: The Tea Party's Revolution and the Battle over American History. Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press, 2010; paperback 2011. Audible audio edition, 2011. *New York Times Book Review* Editors' Choice.

New York Burning: Liberty, Slavery and Conspiracy in Eighteenth-Century Manhattan. New York: Knopf, 2005; Audio: Highbridge Audio, 2005; Vintage, 2006. New York City Book Award. ALA Notable Book; Book of the Month Club and the History Book Club. Anisfield-Wolf Award. Pulitzer Prize Finalist.

Encounters in the New World: A History in Documents. New York: Oxford University Press, 2000; paperback 2002.

The Name of War: King Philip's War and the Origins of American Identity. New York: Knopf, 1998; Vintage, 1999. French translation: *Le Nom de la Guerre*, Toulouse: Anacharsis, 2015. Audio: Knopf Doubleday Group, 2019. Bancroft Prize. Berkshire Prize. Ralph Waldo Emerson Award. New England Book Award. History Book Club.



Middlebury

Department of History/Prog in
Environmental Studies
Axinn Center/Franklin Env Center
At Hillcrest
Middlebury, VT 05753

30 December 2019

RE: Letter of Commitment

I write to confirm my commitment to serve as a scholarly consultant for the proposed project, "The Retreat Farm Story Paths and Landscape Learning Center Plan." I have discussed the project in detail with Jan Albers, and I fully support and endorse its goals and themes as described in the grant proposal. These interpretive sites, trails, and resources will both build on the Farm's historic importance to the local community and break new ground in innovative public and community history. My experience as a U.S. environmental historian teaching in Vermont is directly applicable to this project. My work teaching environmental studies students in their community-connected senior practicum courses is also relevant. In these courses, I guide students as they partner with community organizations as consultants on environmentally-related research and public-facing projects. Many thanks for your attention to our project proposal.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Morse
Professor, Department of History
John C. Elder Chair in Environmental Studies
kmorse@middlebury.edu

CC/cc

Curriculum Vitae
Kathryn Morse
Professor of History and John C. Elder Professor in Environmental Studies,
Middlebury College, Middlebury, VT 05753
kmorse@middlebury.edu

Education

PhD, University of Washington, 1997, History
MA, Utah State University, 1992, History
BA, Yale University, 1988, History (magna cum laude)

Employment

Professor of History & John C. Elder Professor in Environmental Studies, 2013-
Associate Professor, Department of History, Middlebury College, 2004-2013.
Assistant Professor, Department of History, Middlebury College, 1997-2004.
Instructor, Department of History, University of Washington, 1994-95.

Publications

“Beyond Iconic and Ironic in American Environmental History.” Review essay on *Coyote Valley: Deep History in the High Rockies*, by Thomas G. Andrews; *Let Us Now Praise Famous Gullies: Providence Canyon and the Soils of the South*, by Paul S. Sutter; and *Rendering Nature: Animals, Bodies, Places, Politics*, edited by Marguerite Shaffer and Phoebe S.K. Young. *Reviews in American History* 45: 1 (March 2017), 109-116.

“There Will Be Birds: Images of Oil Disasters in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries,” *Journal of American History* 99:1 (June 2012), 124-134.

“Dad (and Mom) versus Nature, 1975: *Jaws* and *The Adventures of the Wilderness Family*,” in “Films Every Environmental Historian Should See,” ed. Marc Cioc, *Environmental History* 12:2 (April 2007), 346-349.

“Wal-Mart, Homesteads, and Unintended Consequences, in “Anniversary Forum: What Books Should Be More Widely Read in Environmental History?” ed. Adam Rome, *Environmental History* 10:4 (October 2005), 728-730.

Photographic Essay for “Anniversary Forum: What’s Next for Environmental History,” *Environmental History* 10:1 (January 2005), passim.

The Nature of Gold: An Environmental History of the Klondike Gold Rush (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2003).

Publications—Non-refereed

“The Nature of War: An Environmental History of Mount Independence,” Orwell, VT: The Mount Independence Coalition, 2006.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

Digital Liberal Arts Fellowship, Middlebury DLA, Fall 2019.
Co-leader, Davis Foundation Grant, “Building the Digital Capstone,” Middlebury College Departments of History, Film & Media Culture, Sociology/Anthropology and Program in American Studies, 2017-2020.
Fellow, Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, Harvard University, 2013-14

(full year sabbatical grant).
 Mellon Foundation, Mellon Collaborative Workshop Grant, “Nature, Race, and Pedagogy” (with Susan Burch), 15-17 October 2010.

Selected Scholarly Presentations

“Race, Class, and Land Tenancy in the New Deal West,” Annual Meeting of the Western History Association, 17 October 2019, Las Vegas, NV.
 “Beyond ‘Migrant Mother’: The New Deal, Poverty, Race, and Gardens in the Segregated South,” Annual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, 31 March 2016, Seattle, WA.
 “Teaching Modern Environmentalism: A Roundtable,” Annual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, 21 March 2015, Washington, D.C..
 “Beyond Migrant Mother: Visual Sources and Late New Deal/Farm Security Administration Rural Rehabilitation Programs,” World Congress of Environmental History, 11 July 2014, Guimares, Portugal.
 “Pro-Quest Historical Newspapers and the Meanings of the ‘E-word’ across the 1970s,” paper presentation, Annual Conference of American Society for Environmental History,” 13 March 2014, San Francisco, CA.

Selected Academic Service—Middlebury College

Elected Committees:

Promotions Committee, Council on Reviews, 2018-19
 Educational Affairs Committee, 2006-2007, 2008-2009, 2009-2012
 Faculty Council, 2002-2004.

Chair/Directorship, Department and Program Service

Chair, Department of History, Fall 2014-Spring 2017
 Director, Program in Environmental Studies, Fall 2008-Spring 2011.
 Member, Environmental Studies Academic Program Committee, 2014-
 Member, Environmental Studies Steering Committee, 1998-2014.

Selected Academic Service—Professional

Member, Executive Council, American Society for Environmental History, 2016-2019
 Summer Seminar Co-Leader, “Seeing Nature: The Environment in American Visual Culture to 1900,” Center for Historic American Visual Culture, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA, July 11-15, 2016.
 Graphics Editor, *Environmental History*, 2003-2007.
 Hal K. Rothman Prize Committee, Western History Association, 2011-13.
 Nominating Committee, American Society for Environmental History, 2009-2012
 Graphics Editor, *Environmental History*, 2003-2007.

Roger Allbee

(b) (6)

December 18, 2019

To: National Endowment for the Humanities

I am very pleased to support and am enthusiastic about the application from the Retreat Farm in Brattleboro, Vermont for a twelve-month \$40,000 grant to cover part of the costs of planning a new outdoor museum employing a humanities approach to connect, teach, and enrich public understanding of Vermont's iconic landscape as a microcosm of our human place on the earth.

The Retreat Farm stands as a cultural icon, and as a key entry point into the State of Vermont. It is a historic and strategic site with an extraordinary history dating from the earliest times. Its agricultural history too has defined the many changes that have taking place within the economy and with the landscape within the region, as well as within the State of Vermont. The 600-site of classic agricultural building, forested hills, farm fields, trails, and water meadows at the junction of the West and the Connecticut Rivers is the ideal backdrop for how people have lived and sustained themselves over many generations.

I am hopeful that the grant will be awarded and look forward in participating as an advisor to the project. My knowledge of the area, and its agricultural contribution is extensive. I grew up on a hillside farm in a nearby town, and during my youth the Retreat Farm was an active farm. Since that time, I have served as Secretary of Agriculture for the State and have written articles as well as a blog on the history of agriculture in Vermont. Based on my knowledge of agricultural history, and changes over time to the working landscape, the Retreat Farm stands out as one of Vermont's very important agricultural and cultural sites.

Sincerely,

Roger Allbee

ROGER ALLBEE

(b) (6)



Professional Experience Related to Agriculture, Conservation, and Resource Use

- Former Secretary of Agriculture, Food and Markets for the State of Vermont
Administered one of the agencies with the most diverse responsibilities in the State.
- Executive Director of the USDA Farm Service Agency for the State of Vermont:
Responsible for the execution of farm loan (guaranteed and direct) and farm program delivery to Vermont farmers.
- Consultant: Worked with farmer leaders and public officials in developing first Current Use tax plan for the State of Vermont in 1979; developed Vermont agricultural Viability Report for the Vermont Council on Rural Development in 2002.
- Senior International Business Consultant to major Washington, D.C. law firm with an emphasis on international trade and agricultural policy. Participated as NGO in Seattle Round of Multinational Trade Negotiations.
- Founding co-owner of AGTEC, former company that assisted U.S. small value-added agricultural businesses in developing markets for specialty food products in new emerging markets in Central and Western Europe and Asia.
- Member of Senior Management Team of former Farm Credit Banks and Bank for Cooperatives for Northeast U.S. (major agriculture and agriculture cooperative lender)
- Member of Professional Staff of U.S. House Committee on Agriculture (responsible for dairy and soil and water conservation policies, passed first national farmland protection policy)
- Marine Extension Specialist, Cornell University (marine economics)
- U.S. Army, Captain during the Vietnam Period.

Some accomplishments:

- Advocated for and helped to create Working Lands Program for State
- Developed procedures for implementing first specialized tax program for agriculture and forestry in the State, 1979
- Helped write and pass first national agricultural lands protection legislation in 1982
- Helped to organize Vermont dairy and water quality collaborative group that resulted in Action Plan, 2019
- Contributing Author on agricultural history to the book by the Vermont Historical Society and Woodstock Foundation, The Vermont Difference, Perspectives from the Green Mountain State,

- Author of Vermont blog on Vermont agricultural history at www.whatceresmightsay.blogspot.com
- Wrote and helped to execute first agreement on agriculture between the Premier of Quebec and the Governor of Vermont and the Minister of Agriculture and the Vermont Secretary of Agriculture
- During the 400-year celebration of the siting of Lake Champlain by Champlain, worked with French and Canadian Government, UVM, Middlebury College, and others in the agriculture and food sectors on understanding and celebrating “terroir”
- Selected to participate on national task forces dealing with issues such as the environment, finance, and rural development. Member of National Geographic Task force on Non-point agricultural pollution.

Professional Awards:

- Outstanding Alumni Award, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Univ of Vermont
- Honor Award, Soil and Water Conservation Society of America
- President’s Award, Vermont Farm Bureau
- Nominated as finalist for Vermonter of Year, Burlington Free Press, 2010
- John Finley Award, Vt Dairy Industry Association, 2017
- Inducted into Vt Agricultural Hall of Fame

Outside Organizational Involvement (related to history and resource use and education)

- Board Member, Vermont Historical Society
- Former Board Member, Vt Folklife Center
- Past Chair, Working Landscape Council, Vermont Council on Rural Development
- Past Chair, Advisory Council to the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Vermont
- Past Chair, Union Institute and University, first online educational institution for degree competition
- Former Board Member, Vt. Council on Rural Development

Education:

- Bachelor of Science, University of Vermont
- Master of Agricultural Economics, University of Massachusetts
- Grew up on hillside farm in Southern Vermont, one of first in my family to go to college.

Vermont History Center
& Leahy Library
60 Washington St. Suite 1
Barre, VT 05641-4209
(802) 479-8500



Vermont History Museum & Store
Pavilion Building
109 State St.
Montpelier, VT 05609-0901
(802) 828-2291

6 January 2020

Jan Albers
Retreat Farm
Brattleboro, Vermont 05301

Dear Jan,

I am pleased to be asked and agree to serve on the advisory team for an NEH planning grant for the use of the Retreat Farm as a learning center. I have a life-long connection to the farm having grown up nearby in Brattleboro and having explored the woods and ski trails on the property when I was a child and young adult. I also worked for one summer painting rooms at Linden Lodge, a Retreat facility, in the 1970s! My father served as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Retreat, so I have long understood the importance of the Retreat and its farm to the Brattleboro community. One of my childhood memories is of receiving a Christmas basket from the Retreat that included raw milk in a Mason jar with thick cream on top!

Since my days as a high school student, I have had an interest in the history of Brattleboro. I was fortunate to be able to turn that passion into a career. I have been the head librarian at the Vermont Historical Society for the past 29+ years, where I oversee the Society's collections of books, pamphlets, photographs, maps, and pamphlets. This being a small organization, I also assist patrons with all types of Vermont research, as I have for you in the past as you have prepared your application.

If the grant application is successful, I will plan on continuing to advise you and your team on historical research questions and attend your one-day charette on plans for the future of the Retreat Farm as a learning center.

Good luck with your application!

Sincerely,

Paul A. Carnahan, Librarian

PAUL A. CARNAHAN

Vermont Historical Society

60 Washington Street, Suite 1 ♦ Barre, Vermont 05641

(b) (6) ♦ paul.carnahan@vermonthistory.org

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Vermont Historical Society, Barre, Vermont.

Librarian, July 1990 – present.

Responsible for all aspects of administration and operation of the VHS library: budget, staff, facilities, collections, automation, volunteers, and special projects. In charge of collection development including book selection and donor relations. Primary curatorial responsibility for the manuscript, broadside, photograph, audio, and film/video collections. Provide patrons with reference services in person, over the telephone, and via e-mail. Administer the photographic reproduction service. Set all conservation and bookbinding priorities. Produce all library hand-outs and brochures, maintain library web presence, plan space utilization. Set policies and procedures for the library and plan for the future. Oversee library automation. Provide IT support to VHS staff. Member of senior managers administrative group. Designed new library space and oversaw relocation of library, 2000-2002.

Project director of grants: “Arrangement, Description and Cataloging of Selected Manuscript Collections at the Vermont Historical Society,” March 1994 – March 1997, NHPRC 94-051; “U.S. Newspaper Program: Vermont Planning Project,” June 1994 – November 1994, NEH PS-20916-94; “Consultant Grant for Arrangement and Description of the Vermont Historical Society Manuscript Collection,” July 1991 – December 1991, NHPRC 91-102. Worked on “Vermont Oversized Historical Document Preservation Project,” March 1, 2010 – August 31, 2011, NEH PG-50953-10.

PAST EMPLOYMENT

Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts.

Electronic Reference Services Librarian, September 1989 – July 1990.

Reference/Systems Projects Librarian, October 1986 – September 1989.

Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts.

Government Documents Reference Assist., part-time, June 1986 – Dec. 1986.

Department of Special Collections, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

Archives Assistant, full time, October 1985 – May 1986.

Rare Books Assistant, part-time, October 1984 – September 1985.

Special Projects Assistant, part-time, November 1983 – September 1984.

EDUCATION

Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
Master of Arts (Library Science), 1986. Thesis: "The Book in the Domestic Environment: The Glessner Family Library, Chicago – 1886-1893."
Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania.
Bachelor of Arts with Honors, 1981.
Major in History (American), minor in Political Science.
Brattleboro Union High School, Brattleboro, Vermont.
Graduated with honors, 1977.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Vermont Historical Records Advisory Board
Member, 2009 – present
Vermont Digital Newspaper Project
Advisory Committee member, 2010 – 2015.
New England Archivists
Fall 1997 Conference, Local Arrangements Committee, chair.
Representative-at-large, president elect/president/immediate past president, 2001-2007.
Vermont Library Association
College and Special Libraries Section, pres. 1992-93, vice pres. 1991 – 1992.
Annual Conference Planning Committee, 1992-93, treasurer, 1993 – 1995.
Awards Committee Chair, 1998 – 2005.
Vermont Archives Network
VHS representative, 1993– present.
Vermont Public Records Advisory Board
VHS representative, 1995 – ca. 2001.
Northeast Document Conservation Center
Advisory Committee member, 1990 – 1998.
Committee for a New England Bibliography
Electronic Products Committee chair, Vermont co-chair, and vice president 1996 – present.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Justice of the Peace, Montpelier, Vermont, 1995 – 1999, 2009 – 2015.
Montpelier Alive/Montpelier Downtown Community Association, Design Committee chair, Montpelier, 1998 – 2016.
Langdon Street Bridge committee, Montpelier, 1996.
Taylor Street Bridge committee, Montpelier, 2000 – 2001.
Montpelier Heritage Group, executive board, 1992 – 1995.

PERSONAL

Married, two children.
Enjoy cross-country skiing, running, bicycling, architecture, yard work.

Letter of Commitment

By: Richard Holschuh

(b) (6)



December 20, 2019

Re: Project Title: THE RETREAT FARM STORY PATHS AND LANDSCAPE LEARNING CENTER PLAN
Institution: RETREAT FARM, BRATTLEBORO, VERMONT
Project Director: Jan Albers
Primary Contact/Grants Administrator: Arthur "Buzz" Schmidt

To Whom It May Concern,

Following an invitation by Jan Albers, Director of the proposed project, to join the Advisory Board for this NEH-supported initiative, I do hereby accept and commit to the responsibilities required to fulfill the position. I will be available for planning, consultation, and implementation activities that are necessary for the successful achievement of the project goals as outlined in the Grant Application.

For the past four years, I have been in active communication with Executive Director and Grant Administrator Arthur "Buzz" Schmidt and staff at the Retreat Farm in Brattleboro, Vermont, in anticipation of initiatives such as the Project proposes to address. My areas of contribution center on Indigenous presence and relations (both historical and ongoing) within the regional landscape, and, specifically, at the Retreat Farm site and its immediate environs. My interest is anchored by my previous research confirming the location's great significance to the Sokoki Abenaki, their ancestors, and allies. It is imperative that this story be explored and shared with the greater community, and I am gratified by the Retreat Farm's expressed commitment to its inclusion.

As a resident of Wantastegok (the original name of Brattleboro), I will be able to bring to bear on this Project my wide experience with historical and cultural place-based research into the immediate landscape with its various communities, human and other-than-human. I am also deeply involved with service work in the contemporary Native community, and can help to bring agency and ownership to a story that is often lacking in that experience and authenticity. I work closely with southern Vermont's Elnu Abenaki Tribe, Chief Roger Longtoe Sheehan, and other members of regional Abenaki groups. I also have strong ties to many Native Studies scholars, both indigenous and non-Indigenous.

I look forward to working with other members of the Board and to being able to play a strong and ongoing role in the success of the proposed Project and its associated endeavors.

Cordially,
Rich Holschuh

Wantastegok wji Sokwakik
Brattleboro, Vermont

Richard Holschuh

(b) (6)

Phone: (b) (6)

E-Mail: (b) (6)

Profile

Resident of southern Vermont since 1982 and deeply invested in Wantastegok (Brattleboro, VT). Retired from home building industry, now in business development and marketing for area architectural firm. Served in numerous Town and Regional public offices. Member of Vermont Commission for Native American Affairs, public liaison for the Elnu Abenaki Tribe, and advocate for larger contemporary Abenaki community, social and legislative activist. Independent historic and cultural researcher. Father, partner, and community member.

Experience

Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs

2016-Present

- Member, Governor-appointed state Native Affairs oversight commission, in second term

Elnu Abenaki Tribe

2015-Present

- Deputy Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO), spokesperson and governmental liaison

Turners Falls Battlefield Study Steering Committee

2017-Present

- Member, Leadership Committee, National Park Service-funded King Philip's War research & education project

Brattleboro Words Project

2017-Present

- Member, Leadership Committee, Scholar/contributor, NEH-funded community literature/history project

Austin Design Inc.

2012-Present

- Marketing, business development, communications for multi-disciplinary northern New England architecture firm

Skills

Residential carpenter for 30 years (competent in other trades also), craftsman, artist (photography and 2-dimensional graphic), lifelong learner, writer (newspaper, magazine, upcoming book chapters), independent researcher into area and regional history, use of landscape, historic and contemporaneous indigenous culture, homesteader, public office-holder at Town and Regional levels, moderate Spanish-speaker, constant reader of non-fiction.

Education

Actively student of Western Abenaki language, 3 years.

Primarily self-taught, 60 years.

1 year Florida Institute of Technology, Marine Biology program



BROOKS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

brookslibraryvt.org

224 Main Street, Brattleboro, VT 05301

Starr LaTronica, Director

January 7, 2020

Jan Albers, Project Director

Dear Ms. Albers:

On behalf of Brooks Memorial Library, I am delighted to express my enthusiastic support for your application to the NEH for a Historic Places Planning Grant.

In my career as a librarian, I have worked with numerous museums and cultural institutions to combine reading literacy with cultural awareness, an appreciation of the natural world and understanding of science. The proposed Retreat Farm Story Paths and Landscape Learning Center provides the perfect opportunity to attend to all of those critical multiple intelligences.

I would be honored to bring my program experience and expertise as a youth services librarian and evaluator of literature for young people to this project and to work with an exemplary array of colleagues to enrich the quality of life in the community through the simultaneous interaction with literature and nature.

I look forward to participating in the charrette associated with the planning process. Conveniently, the Library is walking distance to the Retreat Farm site and we would support your efforts through targeted programming, promotion and acquisition of resources.

I wish you success in obtaining this grant. We at Brooks Memorial Library are already impressed with the Retreat Farm and are equally excited about its future.

Sincerely,

Starr LaTronica
Library Director

Starr LaTronica

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Committed librarian, administrator, consultant, instructor, and advocate with over three decades of professional experience.

Professional Library Experience

Director

2016-present

Brooks Memorial Library, Brattleboro, VT

- Oversee operations of vital Town Library in a dynamic community of 12,000 people.
- Collaborate with Town departments and community agencies and organizations to serve all members of the population.
- Prepare and oversee budgets for Town funds and endowments and work with Friends of the Library for additional monies to support programs.
- Promote and evaluate services.
- Work with Trustees and community to establish priorities through strategic planning.

Manager/Consultant

1995-2016

Four County Library System, Vestal, NY

- Advise, support, engage, stimulate and empower staff of 42 member libraries in rural and urban settings in matters regarding public service, collections, development, policy, promotion, and planning.
- Prepare and conduct regular meetings with member library staff to inform and inspire enhanced services.
- Communicate trends and advancements in library service to members frequently.
- Provide individualized on-site consultation at member library staff and/or trustees for specific issues/service.
- Write and administer grants to fund projects on a system level and to benefit member services.
- Advocate with elected officials on local and state levels for funding and resources on behalf of libraries.
- Supervise and evaluate department staff.
- Solicit and synthesize member input and participation in system planning process.
- Participate in discussions and activities for implementing innovation in libraries.
- Oversee operation of Cybermobile, (bookmobile with Internet access).
- Network with print and broadcast media to place feature stories relevant to literary and library issues and events.
- Prepare and conduct continuing education opportunities for staff and public.
- Propose, plan and oversee budget for departmental expenditures.
- Collaborate with local cultural, educational, and governmental agencies on cooperative programs/projects and continuing education and funding opportunities.
- Participate in and contribute to professional organizations.
- Communicate library trends and issues to member library staff, system personnel, and community partners.
- Prepare and present educational and recreational programs in member libraries and public settings.
- Initiate and maintain contacts with publishers and booksellers to secure approximately 3,000 books annually to be dispersed to member libraries.

Senior Librarian

1990-1995

Berkeley Public Library, Berkeley, CA

- Planned and promoted monthly programming for central library and branches.
- Prepared and presented program budget to Friends of the Library for funding.
- Coordinated outreach to underserved populations and community agencies.
- Served as supervisor in absence of department head.
- Participated in system committees to draft policy, plan professional development opportunities, and systemwide events.

Children's Librarian

North Branch, Berkeley Public Library, Berkeley, CA
 Starr LaTronica

1980-1990
 page 2

| |
|------------------------------|
| Instructor Experience |
|------------------------------|

Adjunct Faculty

2008-2016

Binghamton University

- Plan and conduct graduate level course, *Children's Literature from Diverse Cultures*.
- Develop syllabus.
- Provide weekly instruction.
- Assess performance.

Workshop presenter/lecturer/speaker

1988-present

- Prepare and execute presentations on a range of library/literary/leadership topics for public and professionals via conferences, BOCES, and related organizations.

| |
|--|
| Selected Professional Activities and Affiliations |
|--|

American Library Association

- Division Leadership (Joint Executive Committee) 2012-2015
- Member 1980-present
- Public Information Advisory Committee 2005-2007

ALA/Association for Library Service to Children.

- President 2013-2014
- Board of Directors 2004-2009
- John Newbery Award Committee, Chair 2001-2002
- Committee service on: Intellectual Freedom, School Age Services and Programs, Randolph Caldecott Award Committee, Preschool Services and Parent Education Committee, Liaison with Mass Media Committee, Carnegie Committee, Notable Films and Video Committee, and Membership Committee.

New York Library Association

- Planning committee Empire State Book Festival 2009-2013
- Youth Services Section/School Library Media Section Liaison 2005-2009
- President, Youth Services Section 2001-2002
- Initiated statewide wiki to compile database of New York authors and illustrators.

| |
|------------------|
| Education |
|------------------|

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|------|
| MLS | University of California, Berkeley | 1980 |
| BA, with distinction | University of California, Berkeley | 1978 |

Chief Roger Longtoe Sheehan

(b) (6)

To Whom It May Concern:

I am very familiar with the indigenous history of the Connecticut River and the Retreat Farm site. I have been to the Retreat Farm a number of times to do storytelling and participate in Indigenous Day. The Retreat Farm meadows are an important Abenaki site, historically and probably religiously. There are pictographs on this stretch of the River, depicting the three levels of sky, earth, and underground. We have a written account of a whirlpool in the Connecticut just off of where the pictographs are located, making this a particularly meaningful site for indigenous people. We believe there was a village site here, as well as a burial ground. We have been working on acquiring adjacent land where the pictographs and burial places are located. I will be going back to the Retreat Farm in February to do storytelling and singing.

I am aware of the plan to do landscape paths on the site, including one focusing on the indigenous history of this important location. I am enthusiastic about having an opportunity to bring my expertise to bear on this exciting project. I think it will provide a unique forum for communicating about indigenous history to a wider public. I am committed to making myself available for the planning charette, and to offering my knowledge where it is needed in developing this project.

Sincerely Yours,
Chief Roger Longtoe Sheehan

Roger Longtoe Sheehan

Elnu Abenaki Tribe

Artist Bio

Roger Longtoe Sheehan is the Sagamo (Chief) of the Elnu Abenaki Tribe and a talented Abenaki artist, Native musician and educator. He makes use of all of these talents, in Abenaki Living History events. Having spent most of his life researching Woodland Indian history, he takes great joy in sharing it with others. He does speaking engagements, performs Wabanaki music and Story Telling for people of all ages. Roger is a self-taught artist. He does many Native crafts, but is known as an amazing soapstone pipe maker. He gathers Vermont soapstone and carves animal effigy pipe bowls and hand widdles wooden pipe stems. He also carves wood burls and makes pre-contact style bone tools; 17th and 18th century style knives, war clubs and tomahawks. Roger has lectured, performed and done demonstrations at museums, historic sites and schools, all over the Northeastern and mid-Atlantic regions of the United States.

Artist Statement

My family and I are members of the El-Nu tribe of Abenaki. We are also members of Woodland Confederacy, a native living history organization. I have been participating in Native Living History for over 30 years; researching and practicing my Native culture since I was a kid. I did my first talk/lecture when I was in 7th grade and was asked to come back and lecture for several years after. I create museum quality pieces of the 17th and 18th century arts and crafts of the Eastern Woodland Natives. Examples would be knives, hand carved stone effigy pipes, war clubs, deer & moose hair roaches, silver broaches and earrings. I also create rattles, spears, tomahawks, noggins, moccasins, and many other native things of wood, metal and leather. I am available for presentations, demonstrations and lectures on Abenaki culture. My presentations can include: History, Storytelling, Singing and Drumming; basic 17th and 18th century living skills; and modern Abenaki bush craft. Additionally, I do traditional tattooing for male Tribal members. The old way, no electricity.

Exhibits (select list)

Contact of Cultures, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Vergennes, VT
2016

Parley and Protocol: Abenaki Diplomacy Past and Present. Fort Necessity National Battlefield, Farmington, PA.
2015

Parley and Protocol: Abenaki Diplomacy Past and Present. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum. Vergennes, VT.
2014

Traditional Sources, Contemporary Visions - Invitational Group Art Exhibit. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Vergennes, VT

All My Relations: Faces and Effigies from the Native World - Invitational Group Art Exhibit. Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, Warner, NH
2013

Featured Artist, Institute for American Indian Studies, Washington, CT

Presentations (select list)

2016

Abenaki Cultural Weekend. Fort Necessity National Battlefield, Farmington, PA.

Demonstrator. Ft. at # 4, Charleston, NH

Annual Native American Weekend, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Vergennes, VT

Abenaki Encampment, "Jamaica Old Home Days," Salmon Hole, Jamaica, VT

2015

Demonstrator. Ft. at # 4, Charleston, NH

Annual Native American Weekend, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Vergennes, VT

Abenaki Encampment, "Jamaica Old Home Days," Salmon Hole, Jamaica, VT

2014

Annual Native American Weekend, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum, Vergennes, VT

Winter Celebration. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center/Leahy Center
for Lake Champlain, Burlington, VT

Vermont Indigenous Celebration. ECHO Lake Aquarium and Science Center/Leahy Center
for Lake Champlain, Burlington, VT

Native American Month Presenter. University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

17th century Abenaki Weapons Technology. St. Michael's College, Burlington, VT

Wabanaki Music Program. Champlain College, Burlington, VT.

Story Telling. University of Vermont, Burlington, VT.

Wabanaki Music Program. Flynn Theater, Burlington, VT.

Publications

Foulds, Diane. "For Abenaki Descendants, an ancestral revival... Adding a native focus to the Champlain festivities," Sunday Boston Globe, Travel M6, May 3, 2009.

Nelson, Emily. "Heritage Slideshow." Recorded July 13, 2008. Burlington Press 2008

Wiseman, Frederick M., Ph D. "VERMONT STATE RECOGNITION AND INTERPRETING THE "WESTERN WABANAKI EXPERIENCE," The Wôbanakik Heritage Center, Vermont 2011.

Wiseman, Frederick M., Ph D and Melody Walker. "The Abenakis and Their Neighbors." Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs. Last modified 2010.

Film & Radio

Miricle, Irene, "Changeling, AKA Dawnland." Miricle Girl Productions. 2009. DVD

Reger, Deborah. *Moccasin Tracks* . Recorded September 14, 2013. WGDR 91.1 FM .

Schulmeisters, Lina L. "Artisan Spotlight: Roger Longtoe." Askawobi Productions, 2012

Timrick, Ted. "Before The Lake Was Champlain." Hidden Landscapes. 2009. DVD

Tod,

Wiseman, Frederick M. Ph D. "1609: The Other Side of History." 2009. DVD, The American Revolution

Affiliations

Woodland Confederacy

Native American Quadricenteniel Advisory Committee (2008-2009)

Vermont Abenaki Artists Association, Juried Artist since 2013



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE
Humanities

BP-271514-20 Budget
Salary and Benefits information redacted
pursuant to FOIA Exemption (b)(6).

Budget Form

OMB No 3136-0134
Expires 6/30/2021

Applicant Institution: *Retreat Farm, Ltd.*

Project Director: *Jan Albers*

Project Grant Period: *9/1/20-8/31/21*

[click for Budget Instructions](#)

| | Computational Details/Notes | (notes) | Year 1 | (notes) | Year 2 | (notes) | Year 3 | Project Total |
|--|---|---------|----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------------|
| | | | 01/01/20__ - 12/31/20__ | | 01/01/20__ - 12/31/20__ | | 01/01/20__ - 12/31/20__ | |
| 1. Salaries & Wages | | | | | | | | |
| Jan Albers, Historian and Project Director, | Works on contract at 3/5 time. 60% to be funded by the grant and 40% by inhouse funds or outside grants | 60% | | % | | % | | |
| | | % | | % | | % | | \$0 |
| | | % | | % | | % | | \$0 |
| | | % | | % | | % | | \$0 |
| | | % | | % | | % | | \$0 |
| | | % | | % | | % | | \$0 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 2. Fringe Benefits | | | | | | | | |
| Albers--mileage | 7 trips at 240 miles x 0.58 | 973 | \$973 | | | | | \$973 |
| | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 3. Consultant Fees | | | | | | | | |
| Advisory panel honoraria | 8 x \$400/ day | 3500 | \$3,200 | | | | | \$3,200 |
| Exhibits planning honoraria | 4 x \$500x 2 | 4000 | \$4,000 | | | | | |
| 4. Travel | | | | | | | | |
| Advisory panel travel | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| Allbee 40 miles r.t. | 40 x 0.58 | 24 | \$24 | | | | | \$24 |
| Carnahan, P. | 234 s 0.58 | 136 | \$136 | | | | | |
| Bierman | 302 x 0.58 | 136 | \$302 | | | | | |
| Lepore | 210 x 0.58 | 122 | \$122 | | | | | |
| Morse | 220 x 0.58 | | \$128 | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------------------|--|------------|-----------------|
| Longtoe | 80 x 0.58 | 64 | \$64 | | | | | |
| Advisory Charrette Meals per diem x 14 | 55 x 14 | 770 | \$770 | | | | | |
| Lodging Lepore per diem | | 94 | \$94 | | | | | |
| Exhibits planning travel TBD | 4 x 500 | 2000 | \$2,000 | | | | | |
| Meals per diem panel | 4 x 55 x 2 | | \$440 | | | | | |
| Lodging per diem | 94 s 4 x 2 | 752 | \$752 | | | | | |
| 5. Supplies & Materials | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 6. Subawards | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 7. Other Costs | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | \$0 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 8. Total Direct Costs | Per Year | | \$40,005 | | \$0 | | \$0 | \$40,005 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 9. Total Indirect Costs | | | | | | | | |
| a. Rate: | | | | | | | | |
| b. Federal Agency: | Per Year | | \$0 | | \$0 | | \$0 | \$0 |
| Effective Period: mm/dd/yy-mm/dd/yy | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 10. Total Project Costs | (Direct and Indirect costs for entire project) | | | | | | | \$40,005 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 11. Project Funding | | a. Requested from NEH | | | Outright: 40,000 | | | |
| | | | | | Federal Matching Funds: | | | |
| | | | | | TOTAL REQUESTED FROM NEH | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | b. Cost Sharing | | | Applicant's Contributions: | | | |
| | | | | | Third-Party Cash Contributions: | | | |
| | | | | | Third-Party In-Kind Contributions: | | | |
| | | | | | Project Income: | | | |
| | | | | | Other Federal Agencies: | | | |

TOTAL COST SHARING:

\$0

12. Total Project Funding

| | | | | | |
|--|---|----------|---|-----|----|
| Total Project Costs must be equal to Total Project Funding ----> | (| \$40,005 | = | \$0 | ?) |
| Third-Party Contributions must be greater than or equal to Requested Federal Matching Funds ----> | (| \$0 | ≥ | \$0 | ?) |

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Brown, Rebecca A., ed., *Where the Great River Rises: An Atlas of the Connecticut River Watershed in Vermont and New Hampshire*. Hanover, NH and London: Dartmouth College Press (University Press of New England), 2009.

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