



HISTORIC BARN ADAPTIVE REUSE MODEL PROJECTS

If your property is no longer in agricultural use, there are a number of reuses that people have found for their barns which maintain their integrity. Some barns are being rented out to neighboring farms for additional equipment, crop or livestock storage. But barns have also been fitted up to serve as meeting spaces, and as bed and breakfast facilities. Barns are currently being used for wedding locations; they are being rented out for personal storage space. People are using their barns to serve as workshops, as teaching facilities, and office space for businesses. There are barns that rent out boarding space for horses, and for summer riding stables.

The most frequent reuses of barns — and the most radical — are as stores, restaurants, and homes. In all three cases, it takes special care to rehabilitate the barn so as not to lose its interior volume or its character-defining features.

1. Projects in Massachusetts:

Ashfield - Double Edge Theatre

Used as theater and retreat center: <https://doubleedgetheatre.org/>

Ashfield – Walt Cudnohufsky, Landscape architect – Ashfield, MA

Used as professional offices: <http://www.wcala.com/>

Ashfield – Edge Hill Golf Course, Ashfield, MA

Incorporated into golf course: <http://www.edgehillgolfcourse.com/>

Becket – Jacob’s Pillow Dance Festival, Becket, MA

Used as a dance festival and arts center: <http://www.jacobspillow.org/landmark/>

Blackstone – Daniels Farmstead

Mix-use (agricultural/museum/education): <http://www.danielsfarmstead.org/index.html>

Concord – Thoreau Farm

Used as a museum – restoration in progress: <http://www.thoreaufarm.org/>

North Grafton & Hopkinton - Community Harvest Project

Use – Agricultural: <http://www.community-harvest.org/>

Groton - Williams Barn

Use – Agricultural museum, farmers market, events & programming

<http://www.williamsbarn.org/Pages/default.aspx>

Hamilton & Ipswich – Appleton Farms – Trustees of Reservations

Use – working farm, CSA, nature center: http://www.thetrustees.org/pages/249_appleton_farms.cfm

Hopkinton – Cultural Arts Alliance of Hopkinton

Use – Arts center: <http://www.hopartscenter.org/>

New Marlborough – Gedney Farm and Mepal Manor



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Use – Inn and event space: <http://allegrophotography.com/resources/venues/gedney-farm-mepal-manor/index.htm>

Scituate – Cudworth House & Barn, Scituate MA Historical Society

Use – Storage and display of antique vehicles and farm equipment:
http://www.scituatehistoricalsociety.org/sites_cudworth.html

Sherborn – Silverwood Partners Investment Bankers

Use – Renovated livestock barn used for business offices; owner is also planning to develop CSA on adjoining agricultural land: <http://silverwoodpartners.com> (no photos on website, just info about the business)

Southwick – Ranch Golf Club

Use – Renovated horse barns used as country club facilities: <http://www.theranchgolfclub.com/>

Sudbury – Wolbach Farm, Sudbury Valley Trustees

Use – nature center, meeting space: <http://www.sudburyvalleytrustees.org/about-wolbach-farm>

Uxbridge, River Bend Farm Visitors Center – Blackstone River & Canal Heritage State Park

Use – visitors' center, meeting space: <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/central/blst.htm>

Williamstown – Sheep Hill, Williamstown Rural Lands Foundation

Use – Restored farmstead used to interpret natural history, agricultural, and rural heritage. WRLF has done many innovative programs on preserving rural life and culture. <http://www.wrlf.org/properties-trails/properties/sheep-hill/>

2. Examples Beyond Massachusetts

Hollis, NH – Lawrence Barn

Use – Community center <http://lawrencebarn.tripod.com/>

Jackson, NH – Trickey Barn

Use – New Library

<https://www.jackson-nh.org/about-jackson/pages/jackson-grammar-school-and-tricky-barn>

Rhode Island farms and barns open to the public – multiple sites

Uses – Various: <http://www.preservation.ri.gov/resources/barns.php>

Jamestown, RI – Watson Farm

Use – active family farm: <http://www.historicnewengland.org/visit/homes/watson.htm>

Saunderstown, RI – Casey Farm

Use – organic farm, CSA: <http://www.historicnewengland.org/visit/homes/casey.htm>

Montpelier, VT – Food Works at Two Rivers Center

Use – multiple – living history museum, working farm, camp for kids:

<http://www.tworiverscenter.org/about.shtml>