## For Property Owners! Assessment Grants for Old Barns Tax Incentive Program-Historic Barns and Agricultural Buildings

**Grants**: The New Hampshire Preservation Alliance currently offers Historic Barn Assessment Grants. These small matching grants are available to cover the cost of a professional consultant to inspect one's barn, determine its age and key construction features and assess what may be needed to stabilize, repair and reuse the structure. Grant recipients receive a written report, which can be a valuable planning tool. The application period for this year (2022) was January to May.

**Tax Incentive Program-Historic Barns/Agricultural Structures**: A state law, RSA 79-D, authorizes municipalities to grant property tax relief to owners of historic barns and specified agricultural structures who (a) can demonstrate the public benefit of preserving their barns or other historic farm buildings, and (b) agree to maintain their structures throughout the term of a minimum 10-year preservation easement. Applications for this tax relief must be submitted to the Board of Selectmen by April 15 on a form provided by the NH Dept. of Revenue Administration and available from the Selectmen's office. The Selectmen have 60 days to act on the application and a public hearing is required. Tax relief within a range of a 25 to 75% reduction of the structure's full assessed value may be granted by the Selectmen.

More information about the grant and tax incentive programs can be found on the NH Preservation Alliance website (<u>nhpreservation.org</u>) and these links: <u>Old Barn Financial Assistance Opportunities</u> — <u>New Hampshire Preservation Alliance (nhpreservation.org</u>) and <u>Programs, Tools for Preserving Barns,</u> <u>New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources (nh.gov</u>). You may also contact the Heritage Commission for more information.