



January 9, 2020

Lisa Ryan
Preservation Trust of Vermont
104 Church St.
Burlington, VT 05401

Subject: Facade Restoration Project

Dear Lisa,

I am pleased to submit this letter of interest for the 1772 Foundation's Historic Preservation Matching Grant program. Over its 134 year history, Retreat Farm has played an important role in the local food system and is now a beloved local institution that is fostering appreciation and stewardship of farming, natural lands, and historic buildings.

This grant would considerably aid Retreat Farm's efforts to restore the facades of five of our most visible barns. The facade project is essential to our ongoing restoration of the farmstead and in maintaining the integrity of these magnificent buildings. With nearly 40,000 people visiting Retreat Farm last year, repairing the broken and rotted siding and sills, preparing surfaces and painting of our most prominent and visible barns sends an important message about the importance of our historic buildings, and provides an unmatched setting for our public education and community gathering programs.

We respectfully request \$10,000 in funding which will be matched by donations from our generous members and donors. Due to constraints imposed by weather and the opening of our public season in May, we have begun phase 1 of preparing the facades, and hope to complete phase 2 with carpentry and painting by September.

I look forward to hearing from you about next steps, and putting the funds of the 1772 Foundation to work here at Retreat Farm.

Sincerely,

Buzz Schmidt

Buzz Schmidt
Executive Director
45 Farmhouse Square
Brattleboro, VT 05301