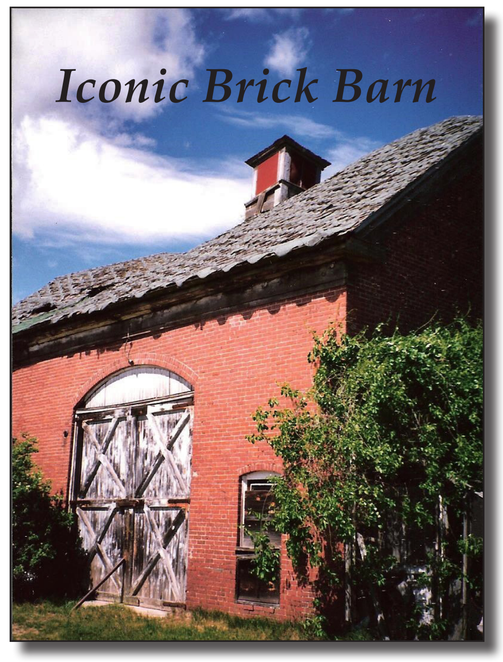
A RICH FARMING HERITAGE

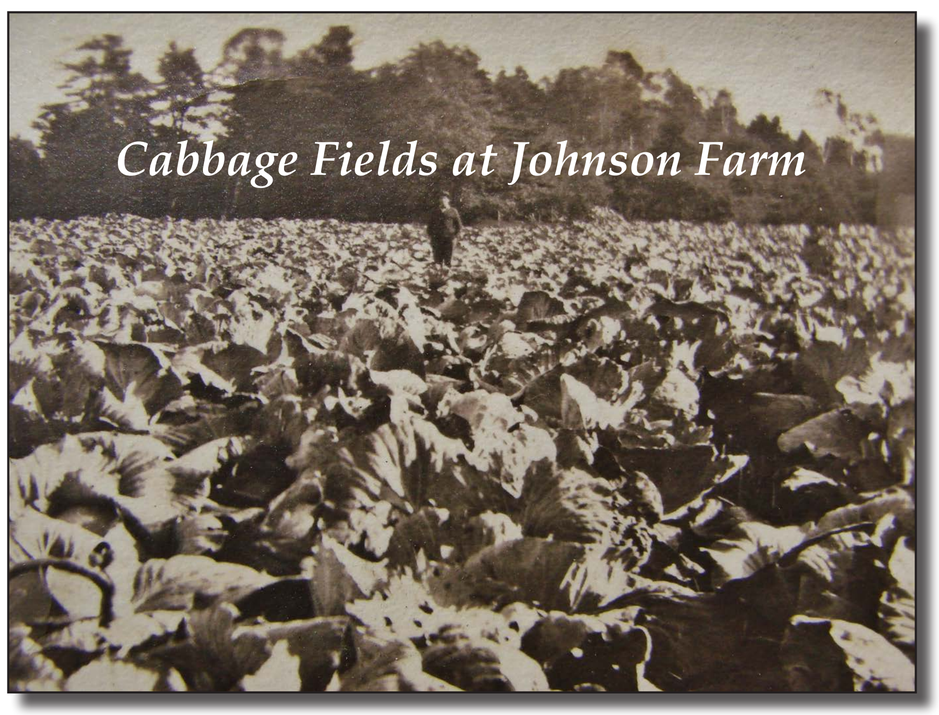
This 135-acre **Pleasant Hill Preserve** was farmed continuously for over 180 years, beginning in the early1800's when the area was teeming with farms. With natural springs that feed the headwaters of the Spurwink and Libby rivers, the property had abundant water for growing crops and raising livestock. It is said that native peoples traveled to this land for fresh water.



The **Robinson** family created the first farmstead in 1826 on the western end of the property that later included an iconic barn made with bricks from the Scarborough Brick Company owned by Charles Robinson. Three generations of Robinsons lived there until 1955. These gentlemen farmers grew primarily hay to feed their horses.

Brothers Van and John **Coulthard** purchased the Robinson farm in 1955, and until 1969, grew vegetables for Portland area stores, including Hannaford and Shaw's.

The **Lund/Johnson** family farmed the eastern end of the property, on Beech Hill, from the early 1900s to 1955, first raising dairy cows, then vegetables, which were sold in the Portland and Boston markets for over 35 years. The farmhouse and two barns burned down in 1965.

Jerrerd **Benjamin** purchased the two properties in the 1960s to graze beef cattle, which he did until 2005. He loved animals, and also kept pigs, sheep, geese and chickens. After traveling daily from his South Portland home to the farm for 40 years, he died in 2006 at the age of 92. It was his dream to conserve this beautiful property.

In 2014, through an historic allocation from the Town Land Bond Fund and a very successful community campaign, **Scarborough Land Trust** purchased the property from Mr. Benjamin's children. SLT is proud to conserve one of the last, large open spaces in Pleasant Hill that is so rich in natural resources and farming history.