



**BOXBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.**  
**29 MIDDLE ROAD**  
**BOXBOROUGH, MA 01719**

“Preserve the Past for the Future”

The Boxborough Historical Society would like to enlist **your help**. For almost 250 years, the modest farmhouse at 205 Flagg Hill Road stood witness to Boxborough’s transformation from small settlement to vibrant farming community to comfortable suburb. On a recent sunny, crisp morning, this house was knocked down over the course of a couple of hours, its splintered remains unceremoniously deposited into a dumpster. *Another piece of our agricultural heritage and rural landscape gone forever.*

We would like your help in saving a similar piece of Boxborough’s history, the 1784 Levi Wetherbee Farmhouse at Steele Farm (the **Steele Farmhouse**) on Middle Road. The Steele Farmhouse is owned by the Town of Boxborough and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is the gateway structure to 100 acres of protected land and is a vital part of our traditional landscape. Without the Farmhouse and adjacent barn, Steele Farm would be simply open space without a cultural context. So why does the Farmhouse need our help? Since the Town acquired Steele Farm in 1994, little has been done to preserve the house: *the foundation, chimney, and first-floor framing are crumbling* and access to the building has been restricted. **If preservation work is not commenced soon, the Farmhouse will be lost.** (The barn, which is of more recent vintage, has been stabilized and repaired; it is currently used for storage.)

The Boxborough Historical Society, through its two-year **Capital Campaign to Preserve Steele Farmhouse**, seeks to raise \$100,000 for use by the Town in accomplishing the needed structural work. By collecting private funds, we will demonstrate that there is a constituency committed to maintaining the Farmhouse. In addition, funds given to the Town through the Capital Campaign can be spent on Farmhouse preservation outside of the appropriations process and independent of the Town’s financial calendar. Once the building is stabilized, it will be up to the Town to determine whether to proceed with restoration of the interior and to determine future uses for the Farmhouse. Through generous initial donations, the Society already has been able to donate \$7,000 to the Town for engineering studies to determine the scope of the necessary preservation work. At the close of the Capital Campaign, *all funds will be turned over to the Town* to preserve and maintain, first, the Farmhouse and, second, the other Farm buildings and property. As co-holders of the Conservation and Historical Preservation restriction on the property, the Historical Society and Trustees of Reservations must approve any work on Steele Farm.

Please **join us** in this urgent effort to save a piece of our shared history. **Thank you!** With kindest regards,

The Boxborough Historical Society, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. All donations to the Capital Campaign to Preserve the Steele Farmhouse are tax deductible to the full extent provided by law.



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