

5 facts about Grand View Farm

Reprinted from the
Burlington Union

By Judy Wasserman

Special to the Burlington Union

1 The history of Grand View Farm dates back to approximately 1730, when the "old saltbox" part of Grand View was owned by Simon Thompson and stood across from the current farmhouse site. Historians believe that before Burlington's meetinghouse was built in 1732, residents worshipped in the saltbox.

Later, it became the home of Solomon Trull, the town's blacksmith.

2 Abner and Sarah Prescott Marion wed in 1834 and acquired the farmhouse, which was most likely built in the late 1700s (today's Grand View house). He and Sarah established Marion Tavern, a popular stagecoach stop between Boston and Lowell. By 1840, Abner bought Trull's saltbox house and attached it to his property; it became the tavern's taproom.

3 By 1870, Burlington native Charles McIntire purchased the property and established an extensive dairy farm and milk route there. Sitting atop the town's Bennett Hill, the McIntires were inspired by the view,



Grand View Farm dates back to approximately 1730, when a portion of the building was owned by Simon Thompson. BRUCE COULTER PHOTO

and renamed the tavern Grand View Farm. Subsequent owners in the 1900s included the Goves and the Rupings.

4 Historians consider Grand View Farm to be the town's best example of a connected farm complex and eligible for placement on the National Register of Historic Homes. It exemplifies Burlington's 300-year history as an agricultural town, and retains important associations with

longtime Burlington families including the Marions and the McIntires.

5 Since 2002, Burlington has been committed to preserving Grand View Farm and ensuring its ongoing use for generations to come. The Grand View Advisory Committee helps the town oversee preservation work and the Friends of Marion Tavern at Grand View Farm continue to raise money to fund the effort.

Residents and local businesses continue to support Grand View by purchasing commemorative items and bricks. Officials have promised that no town funds will be used to restore Grand View.

Phase I of the project is completed; it included repairing and rebuilding the foundation, re-enforcing or re-building the framework, and repairing or replacing walls, floors and staircases. Phase II, the re-building of the barn, begins soon.