

# hale farm & village

a museum of WESTERN RESERVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Contact: Catherine I. Sterle**  
**Director of Sales & Marketing**  
csterle@wrhs.org - 330-666-3711 x1715

**2686 Oak Hill Rd, Bath, OH**  
www.halefarm.org

**April 2, 2020**

## **Hale Farm & Village Announces Meetinghouse Restoration Project**

***For Immediate Release, Bath, Ohio*** --- Hale Farm & Village (HFV) is pleased to announce the Mary Ann Sears Swetland Memorial Meetinghouse restoration project as a focus for 2020. This multi-year project began in 2019 with restoration of the spire and steeple base. The next phase of the project will include steeple details, window glazing, pulpit, pew and floor restoration, new handspun floor runners and exterior work. The project has been generously funded by the Howland Memorial Fund, an anonymous charitable trust, and the Ohio and Erie Canalway Association (OECA). The expected completion date is late summer 2020.

“Since the family farm was transformed into a living history museum, historic preservation has been at the heart of what Hale Farm & Village is all about.” Explains Jason Klein, Director of Hale Farm & Village. The Greek Revival style Meetinghouse was built in 1852 in Streetsboro, Ohio and moved to HFV in 1970, part of a preservation through relocation commitment by the Western Reserve Historical Society. “The Meetinghouse is the anchor to Hale Farm’s historic village. Today, it is used for education purposes, public programs and community ceremonies and events” continues Klein.

The Meetinghouse restoration will improve HFV’s capacity for interpreting the history of the Western Reserve, also known as the Connecticut Western Reserve, founded in 1786 by the state of Connecticut who owned the land. Ongoing HFV projects consist of preservation work for 32 historic structures and infrastructure upgrades throughout the property. These projects enhance Hale Farm & Village’s mission to preserve and share the story of the Western Reserve through an experiential learning community that creates a lifetime of social value. Our educational and social impact is built around our core interpretative themes: early American crafts & trades, historic preservation, agriculture, horticulture, entrepreneurship, and American history.

For more information on how you can support this initiative, please contact Jason Klein, Director Hale Farm & Village [jklein@wrhs.org](mailto:jklein@wrhs.org) or 330-666-3711 x 1713.

Hale Farm & Village | 2686 Oak Hill Rd· Peninsula, Ohio 44264 | P.O. Box 296 Bath, Ohio 44210  
330-666-3711 | [HaleFarm.org](http://HaleFarm.org) | [@HaleFarm](https://www.instagram.com/HaleFarm)



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## *Captions:*

*The Mary Ann Sears Swetland Memorial Meetinghouse was moved to its current location at Hale Farm & Village in 1970. – Photo Credit: Nancy Balluck*

*Interior restoration and paint work being completed at The Mary Ann Sears Swetland Memorial Meetinghouse at Hale Farm & Village. - Photo Credit: Hale Farm & Village*

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*Hale Farm & Village, a living history museum of the Western Reserve Historical Society, is located on 90 acres in Bath, Ohio with 32 historic structures, farm animals, heritage gardens, farming and early American craft and trade demonstrations. The location is open for a summer season June – August, Wednesday – Sunday; weekends only September and October; and signature events or educational programming during other times. Visit [www.halefarm.org](http://www.halefarm.org) or call (330) 666-3711 for seasonal hours, program listings, rental information, and to become a member. 2018 marked Hale Farm & Village's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a museum of the Western Reserve Historical Society.*

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*Founded in 1867, Western Reserve Historical Society (WRHS) is Northeast Ohio's premier storyteller based on its vast collection of the tangible history of Northeast Ohio. It is one of the oldest and largest nonprofit regional historical societies in the nation. It presents the lives and activities of 19<sup>th</sup>-Century settlers through historic Hale Farm & Village in Bath, Ohio. WRHS offers a wealth of resources to research your family heritage at the Cleveland History Center in University Circle, Cleveland.*

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