

At Sanborn Mills Farm, preserving the past and planning for the future never stops!

Sanborn Mills Farm

April 2016 eNews



www.sanbornmills.org

What's the difference between a farrier and a blacksmith?

These two professions were closely intertwined back in the day. A blacksmith forges, hammers, and bends iron and steel to create a wide range of objects including gates, grilles, railings, light fixtures, tools, farm implements, and cooking utensils. A farrier specializes in hoof care for horses and oxen and uses some blacksmithing skills to shape their shoes. Oxen are especially tricky to shoe as they need to be elevated in a sling on on a tilted table in order to safely work on their hooves.



[Learn more](#) about oxen . . .

To get involved with the ancient skill of blacksmithing, consider taking a *Blacksmithing Basics* workshop at Sanborn Mills Farm this summer. Classes are filling up quickly, so sign up early! If you already have some basics under your belt but don't have a forge of your own, why not sign up for our affordable open forge sessions. Master blacksmith Garry Kalajian of [Ararat Forge](#) teaches the 2016 workshop series and will be on hand during Open Forge sessions to assist with the challenges of maintaining a good fire and using the equipment. He can also provide suggestions in choosing a project.



[Learn more](#)
about our workshops . . .

[Learn more](#) about blacksmithing . . .

History facts . . .

Right through the late 1800s, wood was central to the economy in New Hampshire and essential to survival. It was needed to build houses and barns, to make furniture and tools, and was burned to heat homes in the long cold winters. The Sanborn family understood that the abundant timber resources of New Hampshire's interior presented an opportunity to prosper and so they invested in water-powered sawmills very early on.



The first saw mill at Sanborn Mills farm was built in the mid-1700s. The current mill was built in 1829. Both were "sash" mills - or what is sometimes called an "up and down" mill. The saw mill you see today at the farm was converted to a circular mill in the 1870s. The 56" Lane saw blade was installed in 1891.

[Learn more](#)

Thank you . . .

to everyone who dropped by to visit our booth at the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance's Old House & Barn Expo March 12 & 13 and signed up for our eNews!

[Learn more](#) about the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance . . .

Position opening at Sanborn Mill Farm . . .

Sanborn Mills Farm is currently accepting applications for the position of Farm Educator. The projected hire date is **spring 2017**.

[Learn more](#) . . .



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A traditional New Hampshire farm and nonprofit organization dedicated to sustainability, creativity, and preserving folklife and traditional agricultural knowledge so that the best of the past can help shape our future.

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