

Belmont Historica Society program will focus on connected farm buildings

BELMONT — On Tuesday, July 19, at 7 p.m., Professor Thomas Hubka, will present the program, "Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: the Connected Farm Buildings of New England" at the Corner Meeting House.

This program is hosted by the Belmont Historical Society and funded through New Hampshire Humanities. It is an illustrated talk that focuses on the four essential components of 19th century New England farms and discusses how and why the farmers converted their typical separate house and barns into connected farmsteads. Many of these beautiful, stately farmsteads still exist today and offer insight into the lives of the people who developed them. Professor Hubka's discussion follows the connected farm movement and demonstrates that the average New England farmer was motivated into developing this style of architecture as a means to supplement farm income, as they faced competition with farmers in other regions of America who had better soils and growing conditions. His award-winning book on the subject of connected farm buildings will be available for those wishing more in-depth information regarding the historical development of connected buildings in New England.

Hubka is a Professor Emeritus from the Department of Architecture, University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee where he taught for over 20 years. His presentation focuses on the historical development of New Hampshire's farm architecture. Hubka is best known for his book "Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New England" (The University Press of New England) for which he received the Abbott Lowell Cummings Award for the best book in American vernacular architecture.

The program is free and open to the public. For additional information or directions call Christine Fogg at 524-8268.