



CARLISLE
CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION

SORLI SOUTH FIELDS CONSERVATION RESTRICTION

Press Release
April 12, 2017

On March 23, 2017, Matthew Beaton, Massachusetts Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, formally approved the Conservation Restriction (CR) for protection of the Sorli Farm South Fields. The CR was granted by the Sorli Family Land Trust and the Marjorie V. Sorli Trust, and will be held and monitored jointly by the Carlisle Conservation Foundation (CCF) and the Carlisle Conservation Commission. State approval of this CR is the final major step in preserving this property. The CR was recorded at Middlesex Registry of Deeds on March 29, 2017.

CCF has been working for over the past twelve years to preserve the historic Sorli farmstead on Westford Street, with its working fields, forests, and beautiful vistas. The CR preserves over 20 acres of the fields and forests on the south side of Westford Street for agriculture and provides for public access along a historic stone wall and cart path. At Town Meeting on May 9, 2016, the citizens of Carlisle overwhelmingly approved \$850,000 of Community Preservation Act funding to purchase the Sorli CR, protecting the land from development in perpetuity. CCF provided additional funding for the purchase.

Lee Tatistcheff, Chair of the Conservation Commission, said, "Protection of the Sorli Farm South Fields has long been a top priority of the Town as expressed in our Open Space and Recreation Plan. We are delighted that this iconic jewel of a landscape will be preserved and maintained for future generations."

Liz Carpenter, President of CCF added, "We thank members of the Sorli Family that worked with us for their generosity and foresight. CCF is pleased to have been able to help the Town achieve this long-sought goal."

Larry Sorli said "My family has had the privilege of farming this land for 103+ years. I know that my late father would be especially pleased that we have found a way for future generations of the family to continue that tradition while contributing to the special quality of life here in Carlisle."

The Carlisle Conservation Foundation is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1960 with the mission of preserving the natural beauty and the rural character of Carlisle.