

Lial Acres, Warren RI – ALPC's 100th Protected Farm

On December 22nd, 2014 the RI Agricultural Lands Preservation Commission reached a milestone when it purchased the development rights to its 100th farm, the 40.5 Lial Acres in Warren. Since the inception of the program in 1985, DEM and the ALPC have protected 7,000 acres of working farmland in the state.

Lial Acres has been in production for 125 years. It is owned by Mrs. Bertha Lial, widow of Manuel Lial, who ran the farm as a dairy operation for decades. The farm is currently leased out to Paul D'Allesandro, who uses the farm for diversified vegetable production, along with some hay and grazing land. With nearly 60% of the property consisting of prime and important farm soils and wide open vistas from the road and across to the Warren Reservoir, this farm is an important state resource to protect. Lial Acres abuts land protected by the Bristol County Water Authority and is in close proximity to farms protected by ALPC, including Freirichs Farm and Chase Farm.

The purchase price for the development rights was \$385,000, which was funded with \$192,500 from the NRCS's Farm and Ranchland Protection Program, \$75,000 from The Nature Conservancy and The Champlin Foundations, and \$117,500 from the Agricultural Land Preservation Commission.

