What is local food? What makes food so resolutely bound up with place? Place has been shown to be a way of organizing attachments that are felt to derive from, and in some ways also to generate, feelings of connection to particular locales. But place is never simply about social membership – it can also be endowed with a sense of historical depth, and a set of particular possibilities. There are false starts, ambitious aspirations, intractable participants, material affordances – all of which transcend the mere condition of being located in space. I bring attention to these potentials drawing on field research in more-than-human places, by considering living and working landscapes laden with concerns and caring for cattle in communities across central North Carolina.