

Barns as Art



About Sally Veach . . .

Sally Veach formed the identity of an artist early in childhood and worked for many years as a graphic artist. In 2011, Veach began to rediscover her artistic voice. She is currently painting full time at her studio in Woodstock, Virginia. Veach continues to study the theories and principles of art in master classes and workshops. She is proud to be a graduate of renowned artist, Nicholas Wilton's, Art2Life Creative Visionary Path and is a member of his Art2Life Academy. Her work is shown and collected regionally and across the United States.

Barn Survey Notes

I have been finding more surviving log barns than expected. Log barns were built from the 1730s until about the 1850s.

The most common barn form in Shenandoah County is the forebay bank barn. The bank is the ramp that leads to the big sliding doors and the forebay is the part that juts out on the side opposite the bank.

John Adamson



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Lifetime: Single: \$200 * Family: \$300

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THE HISTORIC BARNs OF SHENANDOAH COUNTY

John Adamson, Program Manager



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Background

Shenandoah County's historic barns comprise a unique collection of structures, built from the mid-1700s until the 1950s, which document the agricultural history and development of our county. Today, these icons of material culture and the rural landscape are seriously threatened. Changes in technology have made traditional barns largely obsolete for modern agriculture. The high cost of maintenance or restoration of these structures makes it difficult for many individual owners to preserve their barns.

Shenandoah County barns provide a window into early settlement history, agricultural history



and practice and even our turbulent Civil War history. They stand today as testaments to the work ethic of our citizens and are part of Shenandoah County's beautiful rural landscape. They deserve to be celebrated, counted, studied and, wherever possible, preserved as assets for the benefit and enjoyment of our citizens and visitors.

The Shenandoah County Historical Society has begun a program to document our historic barns, creating a permanent record and promoting their preservation. We hope this program will generate community enthusiasm for our barns and support for barn owners in their efforts toward preservation.



The Historic Barn Survey

The Historic Barn Survey includes an architectural description of each barn, photographs, and information on the barn's age, history, setting and location. Survey data is entered into a database maintained by SCHS and will be made available for research and educational purposes. SCHS estimates that there are as many as 1000 surviving log and timber frame barns in Shenandoah County. We expect the survey effort will last several years.

We hope to enlist volunteers, barn owners, agricultural and community organizations as well as county government to provide support to make this effort successful. SCHS plans to use its website, newsletter, and social media to share information about the program. Planning for this effort includes the concept of individual barn owners providing data, history, access and possibly documenting their own barns.

While the primary goal of the barn program is education and documentation,



SCHS also hopes to provide assistance in the preservation of individual barns. To this end, SCHS will work to identify sources of financial assistance including restoration grants and tax credits. SCHS will also develop a list of local resources including contractors, building supply sources and sources of information related to barn repair and restoration.

Sally Veach Barn Art

In conjunction with the SCHS barn survey, local artist Sally Veach is creating a series of paintings which she will share through art shows throughout the region. It is hoped that this art and its showings will help raise awareness for Shenandoah County barns and possibly generate funds in support of the program. Examples of Veach's art and information on her show "The Barns of Shenandoah" can be found at her website www.sallyveach.com



CONTACT

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