



(Left to right) The Herbst House restoration and repair.

Hello Friends,

With this twelfth update for the 2021 Fresh Coat Initiative: Post Pandemic Spruce Up, I am happy to share our progress on the Herbst House Main Street facade. Home to our popular *Seed Saving Lab*, the Herbst House is frequented by many visitors throughout the week. The second-floor front porch has become the center of interpretation for the Horticulture Team as they set up displays and have conversations about heirloom plants, seed saving, Moravian agricultural practices, food insecurity, and the long-term environmental effects of Salem's land use patterns. Our preservation team will return to the Herbst House to work on the remaining exterior elevations following more pressing restoration needs in the historic district. For now, come and sit on the porch, appreciate all of the restoration work, and chat with our Horticulture Team.

Many thanks,

Frank Vagnone

President & CEO Old Salem Museums & Gardens and The Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts





*(Left to right) The next Fresh Coat Initiative project is the Log Church (the first church building built for enslaved Afro-Moravians). Initial analysis has revealed a high level of rot and deterioration to not only the structural porch beams but also the dry stack foundation piers. Seeing this level of need has placed the Log Church at the top of our priority list. The expert repairs and restoration work is being completed by craftsman Ben Masterson, residents Bill Tobiassen and Doug Williams with the logistical assistance of Erik Skarzynski, Director of Facilities and his team.*