

(Left to right) Tavern Barn (c. 1825) was originally constructed in Bethania, NC and moved to Old Salem in 1961. The barn stood on Moravian land and most likely was built, in part with enslaved labor. The expert repairs and restoration work was completed by craftsman Ben Masterson, with the logistical assistance of Erik Skarzynski, Director of Facilities, and his team.

Hello Friends,

With this 15th update for the 2021 Fresh Coat Initiative, I show you the completed Tavern Barn c. 1825. A site of significance for the Hidden Town Project, the Tavern Barn needed a complete exterior surface paint restoration. **To date the Fresh Coat Initiative has completed 60 distinct restoration projects on 18 historic sites within the historic district.** We believe that this is the most restoration work (outside of a single building restoration project) that Old Salem and MESDA has completed in a single year.

Many thanks,

Frank Vagnone

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



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Tavern Barn (c. 1825) generally was in good shape. The structure is sound and only a small amount of wood restoration and repair was needed. The entire exterior needed to be scraped, primed and then painted with multiple coats of the distinctive Old Salem "yellow". Items such as the large barn doors needed some care as there was damage at the bottom edge of the wood boards due to rot and wear. The expert repairs and restoration work was completed by craftsman Ben Masterson, with the logistical assistance of Erik Skarzynski, Director of Facilities, and his team.