Hello Friends,

In this second update for the **2022 Fresh Coat Initiative**, we are excited to share with you our latest restoration project of the Local Historic Landmark Volz Barn. This beautiful heritage timber frame barn was built in 1825 near the historic Idol's ferry along the Yadkin River and was moved to Salem's Volz Lot 96 in 1970. The timber frame barn is built of a combination of hand-hewn yellow pine and sawn white oak timbers, some of which span the entire length and width of the structure. The main level floor is supported by log joists hewn flat on one face which rest on a massive white oak post and frame. This space was likely used to store hay and grain while the lower level below the barn was partitioned into animal stalls.

The barn had been used for architectural storage for several decades, but as the wooden shake roof degraded, rain began to soak into the frame resulting in considerable rot damage. Our restoration team identified the scope of damage, labeled and moved the stored materials, and began to repair the structure using locally milled timbers. All the repairs were done using the same traditional mortise and tenon joinery keeping as much of the original fabric intact as possible and even reusing some of the old growth pine for corner braces.

After several weeks of repairing rafters, purlins, joists, posts, and beams this heritage barn was topped off with a new split shake roof which will keep it safe and dry for many decades to come. We think it is very fitting that the Volz Barn will be the new location of our restoration/preservation shop where we will continue the stewardship of Old Salem’s historic district for many more generations of visitors!

**To date the FRESH COAT INITIATIVE has completed 76 distinct restoration projects in 21 historic buildings.**

Many thanks,
Frank Vagnone
President & CEO Old Salem Museums & Gardens and The Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts
The Voltz Barn needed attention. Sunlight poked through the decaying wood shake roof, and the holes in the roof allowed water to infiltrate and rot important structural members.

The Voltz Barn showing the newly completed wood shake roof. This roof was approved by the Historic Resources Commission and will provide decades of protection for the newly restored timber structure.
Ben Masterson, Restoration Carpenter, is shown working in the Voltz Barn restoring the highly detailed timber connections.

A photograph showing the original location of the barn structure, the Voltz Barn roof being installed, rot damage to the structure.