



HISTORIC BARNs OF NIPMOOSE
59 SHERMAN LANE, BUSKIRK, NY 12028

The Historic Barns of Nipmoose are located on the Nipmoose Farm in northeastern Rensselaer County, New York.

North: 50 minutes from Saratoga Springs, NY

South: 90 minutes from Hudson, NY

Southwest: 45 minutes from Albany, NY

East: 30 minutes from Bennington, VT

Southeast: 45 minutes from Williamstown, MA

West: 30 minutes from Clifton Park, NY

Photographs by Dunja Von Stoddard and Constance Kheel



THE PERSISTENCE FOUNDATION

CONSERVING AGRICULTURAL LANDS AND HERITAGE

The Persistence Foundation (TPF) was formed to help conserve farmland and preserve agricultural heritage.

Working farms and agricultural landscapes are disappearing at an alarming rate, as farmland is sold for development or left fallow. These trends are adversely impacting the country's welfare and economic stability. Historic barns, America's most treasured folk art, are also suffering and are in danger of becoming extinct. Changes in the economy, land use patterns and technology have all contributed to the rapid loss of America's vernacular architecture.

TPF has initiated and participated in numerous projects involving the conservation and reclamation of agricultural lands, as well as the documentation and restoration of historic buildings.

TPF's most significant undertaking has been the restoration of the Historic Barns of Nipmoose. These barns showcase the skills of America's early builders and the beauty of the timber framed structures of the past.

The Persistence Foundation is a not-for-profit 501(c)3



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THE HISTORIC BARNs OF NIPMOOSE





The Historic Barns of Nipmoose (the Scottish Barn, German Barn and Corn Crib) are outstanding examples of timber framed structures that reflect the extraordinary craftsmanship of 18th and 19th century timber framers. The Nipmoose barns stand as testaments to America's early settlers.

The remarkable timber framing of the three barns can be credited to master builders who learned their trade in England, Germany, and Scotland. The building tech-

niques of these skilled craftsmen reflect the cultural traditions they learned in their countries of origin.

The Historic Barns of Nipmoose are owned by The Persistence Foundation (TPF). They are centrally located on the Nipmoose Farm in the West Hoosick Hills area of northeast-ern Rensselaer County, New York.

An extensive restoration of the barns was undertaken by TPF in 2001. Timber framer Ronald Babcock oversaw the disassembly,

repair, siting and raising of all three barns. Clayton Babcock erected the magnificent dry laid stone foundations.

The Historic Barns of Nipmoose provide a unique opportunity to step into the past and learn about the artistry of America's early agricultural buildings.

Their exceptional architecture can be enjoyed by people of all ages and interests.

To schedule a visit or lease the barns for an event, please contact TPF.



SCOTTISH BARN



The Scottish Barn ranks among the earliest and most unique barns in America. It is the oldest of the Nipmoose barns and a rare example of an 18th century threshing barn.

Predating the use of sawmills, every structural timber in it was either hand hewn or hand split.

Its massive white oak beams are united with a special joinery so complex that some call it "secret joinery". This marvelous joinery is accomplished with tapered posts measuring over 20 inches at their peak. Framed ingeniously into the top of each post are 60-foot long plate beams and hefty tie beams.

GERMAN BARN

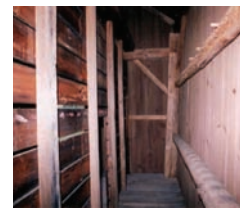


The German Barn is a splendid, historic hay barn with massive red oak timbers skillfully fitted together.

Although the German Barn dates to the mid 1800s, its style of framing resonates with an earlier period of construction. One feature in particular stands out. It is the placement of double cross beams in each section. This design feature is believed to have been introduced in America by builders who emigrated from Germany.

The monumental stone wall on the west side of the German Barn is a superb example of a dry laid stone foundation.

CORN CRIB



The Corn Crib is a stellar example of an early timber framed structure designed to store corn cobs and oats. It is typical of other corn cribs built in the early 1800s in the area surrounding the Nipmoose Farm.

The Corn Crib is remarkably intact, with tapered sidewalls and interior partitions characteristic of early corn cribs. It is also shrewdly compact. Its small frame, just 16 feet by 24 feet, is divided into five separate spaces.

Brimming with joinery, the Corn Crib showcases the same remarkable skills of timber framing evident in the Scottish and German barns.